タッチ

1

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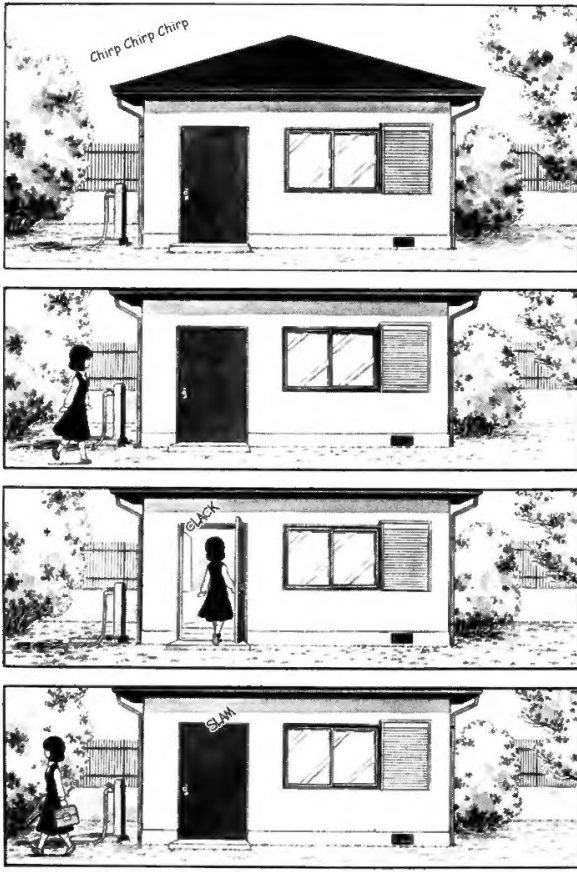
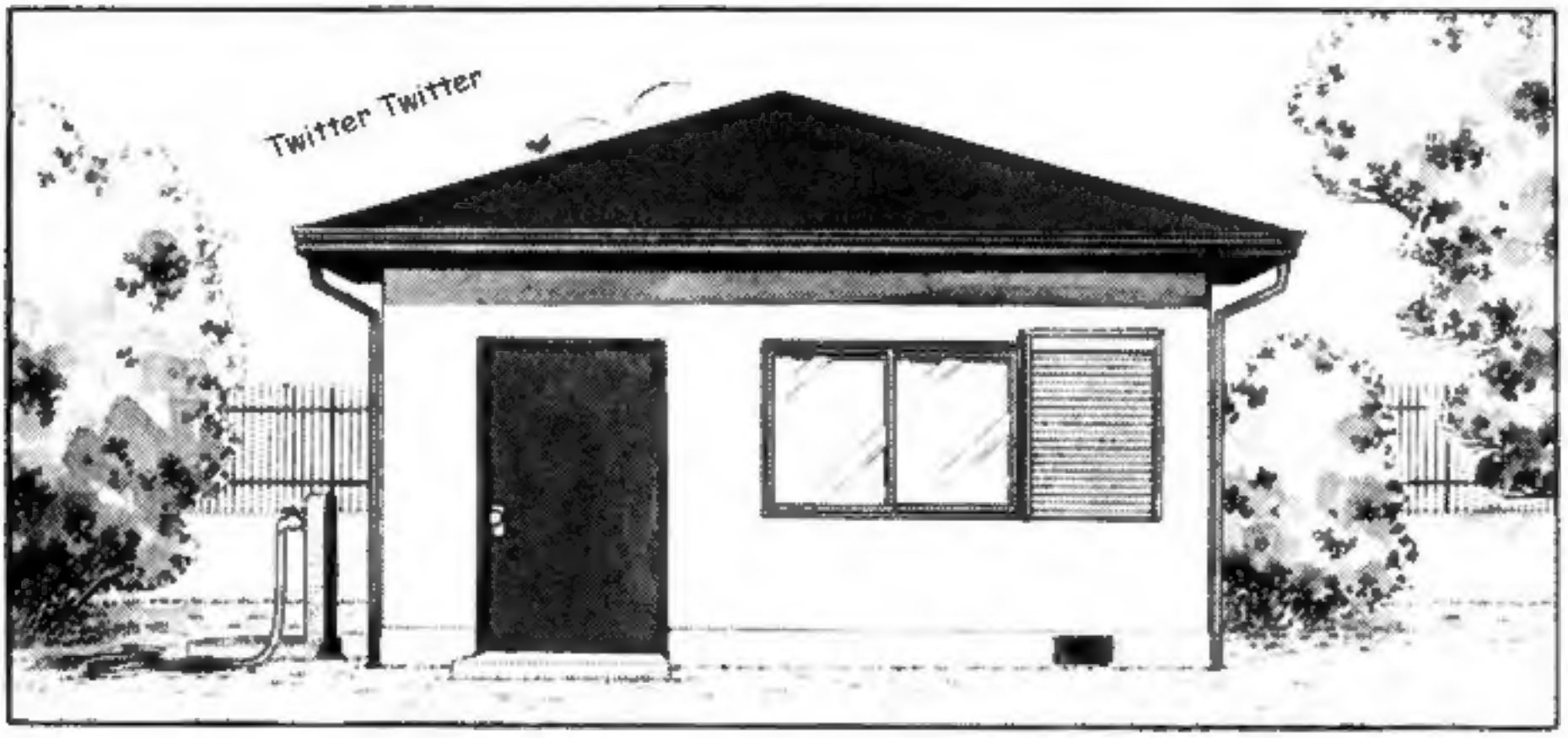
Tatchan and Katchan


Chirp Chirp Chirp
CLACK
SLAM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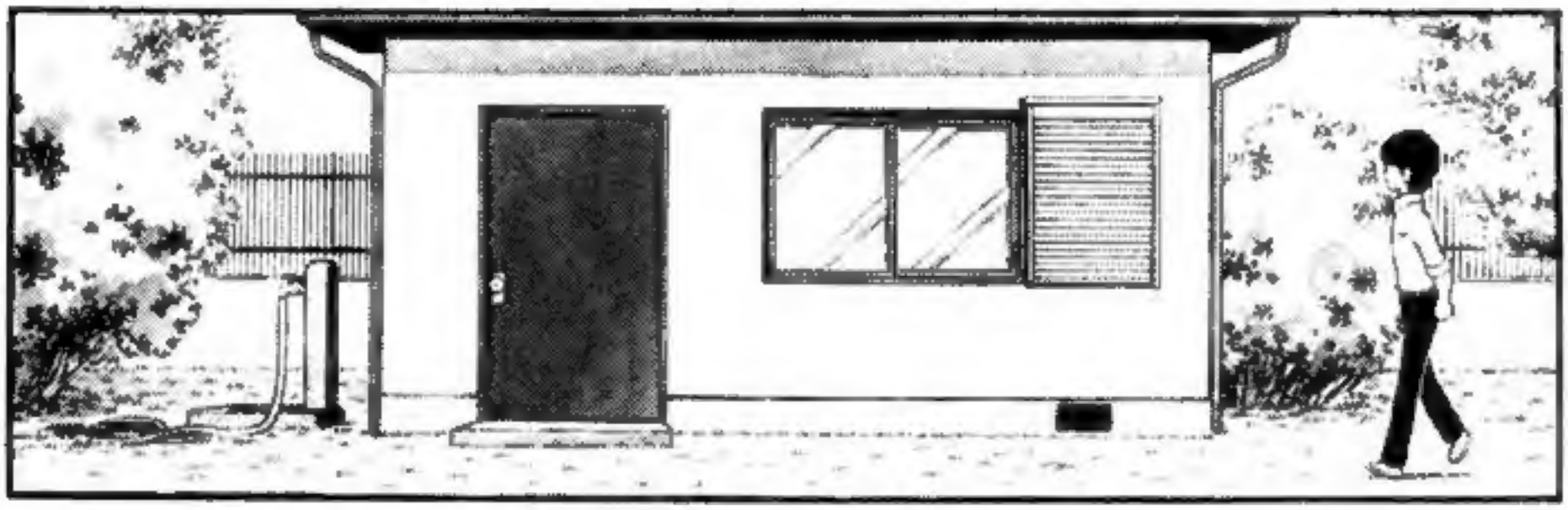
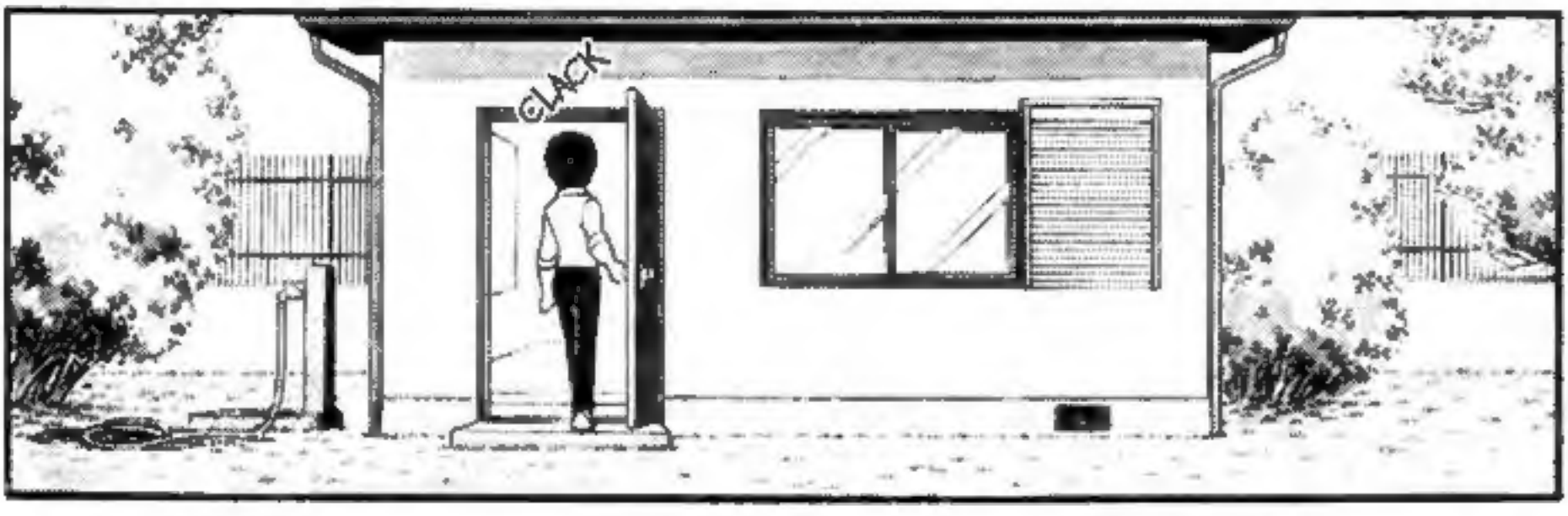
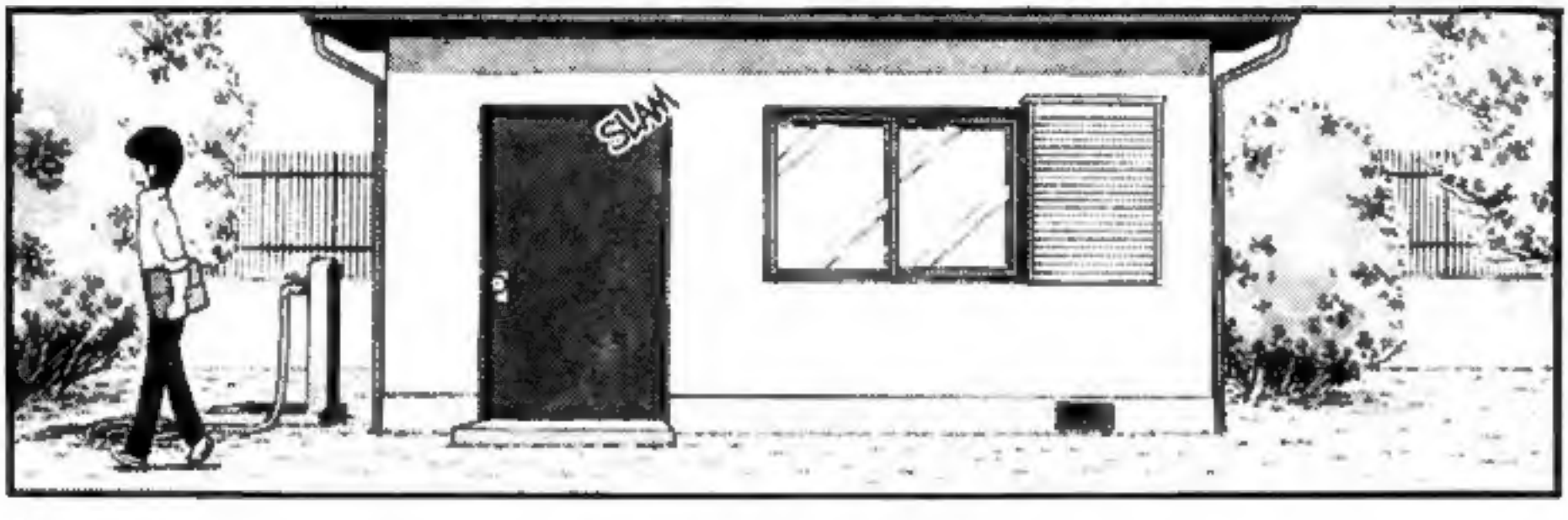



CLACK


SLAM

GOOD MORN-ING.

GOOD MORN-ING.

OH?

IT'S 'CAUSE EXAMS ARE COMING UP...

I WAS SURE YOU LEFT AHEAD OF ME!

WHAT ABOUT THE BASEBALL TEAM'S MORNING PRACTICE?

IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.

HMM, KAT-CHAN ...?

IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN SO FOCUSED ON BASE-BALL EVER SINCE ENTERING JUNIOR HIGH,

COME TO THINK OF IT, IT'S BEEN A WHILE, HUH? SINCE WE WALKED TO SCHOOL TOGETHER...

SFX: <TWITTER TWITTER>

SFX: <OOF!>

SFX: <CLACK>

SFX: <SLAM>

Meisei Jr. High

YO, HOT COUPLE!

HMPF!

HUH, TATCHAN.

ONE MORE TIME AND IT'S PUNISHMENT CLEANUP DUTY AGAIN,

SHUDDUP!

WHAT A SHAME!

YOU WON'T BE SETTING THE RECORD FOR CONSECUTIVE TARDIES.

OH.

SFX: <MUNCH>

THERE'S NO REASON TO THINK THE DAMAGE TO HIS SHOES WOULD BE THE SAME AS YOURS WHEN ALL YOU DO IS GO FROM HOME TO SCHOOL AND BACK.

OF COURSE THEY ARE. IT'S BECAUSE KATCHAN RUNS 10 KILOMETERS EVERY MORNING AND EVENING.

EVEN THOUGH WE GOT MOM AND DAD TO BUY THEM AT THE SAME TIME, YOURS ARE BANGED UP THAT MUCH ALREADY?

WHAT'S THIS, KAZUYA ...?

THEY'RE STILL AS GOOD AS NEW!!

LOOK AT MINE...

Edited by ZlleH, from #MangaProject on Dalnet

SFX: <CLACK>

AH! I'LL PICK THEM UP FOR YOU.

YUP.

VERY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS AS USUAL, HM, KATCHAN?

SUCH A PROBLEM ...

WHAT ABOUT YOU, TATCHAN?

YOU STUD!

HERE ...

SFX: <CLACK!>

Letter of Challenge

OHHHHH!!

I SEE, I SEE.

OHHHHH !?

SHUT UP.

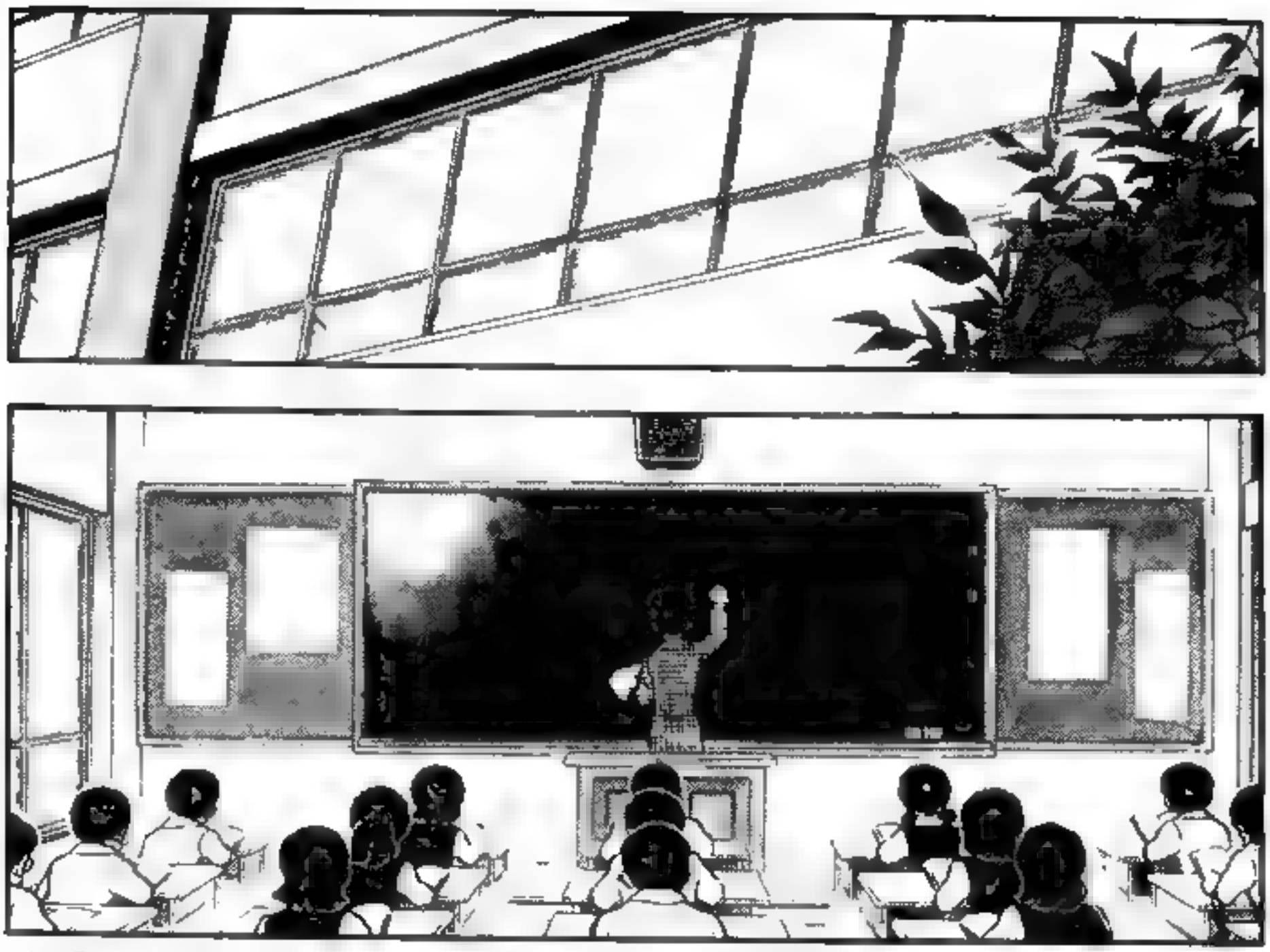
BYE. PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF ANIKI.*

3-A

'CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE COMPARED DIRECTLY TO KATCHAN, HM.

BEING IN DIFFERENT CLASSES IS YOUR ONLY SALVATION...

* "ANIKI" MEANS "BIG BROTHER," WHICH IS HOW KAZUYA USUALLY ADDRESSES TATSUYA.



FRONT OF LETTER: UESUGI KAZU.

SFX. <CLING CLONG CLANG CLONG>

タッチ 1

GO HOME AND STUDY!

EXAM TIME'S NEARLY HERE! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

WAH!

LET'S GO SEE!

HEY, TATSUYA!

I HEARD A RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS CLUB WAS FORMED OVER AT THE HIGH SCHOOL.

キーコ！カーコ！

Boy's Restroom

キリ

SFX. <BECOME SERIOUS>

BUT...

HEH HEH.

NO MATTER HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, I'M KAZUYA.

INDEED, WE'RE NOT TWINS FOR NOTHING.

THIS FACE TIRES ME OUT...

.....

SFX. <SPLAT>

LEAVE THE REST TO ME, KAZUYA-KUN.

DOING THIS FOR MORE THAN AN HOUR IS TOO MUCH... THIS FACE...

HI.

YOU CAME!

WOW!

WHAT ABOUT?

KYA!

I'M SO THRILLED!

HA HA!

THAT'S TRUE... YOU'RE GIFTED, UESUGI-SAN.

FOR SOMEONE WITHOUT TALENT, IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY ...

WELL ...

IS IT ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO SKIP BASEBALL PRACTICE?

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...

I WONDER ...

YOU'LL SHOOT FOR KOUSHIEN* AFTER ALL, RIGHT?

WHEN YOU GO TO THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM,

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? TATCHAN!

YOU'RE CUTE, HMM. ♥

HUH?

INSTEAD OF THAT, LET'S LIVE IN THE PRESENT.

HEH HEH. ♥

OH!

* "KOUSHIEN" IS THE GREAT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

EH?

EH?

HUH?

TATCHAN?

BUT I THOUGHT WE LOOKED ALIKE...

I WONDER IF THAT'S SO...

SFX. <TENSION>

NO MATTER HOW YOU MAKE YOURSELF LOOK, IF IT'S YOU, TATCHAN, I'LL KNOW.

WHAT GAVE ME AWAY?

KATCHAN IS KATCHAN!

TATCHAN IS TATCHAN!

H-HEY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

MUSS MUSS

IT'S OKAY IF I GET HIM TO PASS AROUND JUST ONE TO ME!

KAZUYA HAS NO INTEREST ANYWAY IN GOING OUT WITH ANY GIRL OTHER THAN YOU...

WHY ARE YOU GETTING MAD?

WHAT'S WITH HER!?

OOF!

WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING?

YOU READ MY LETTER OF CHALLENGE, DIDN'T YOU?

LETTER ?

I AT LEAST ADMIRE YOUR COURAGE FOR NOT RUNNING AWAY.

GOOD FOR YOU!

HUH?

YOU JERK! YOU DIDN'T EVEN OPEN IT!?

AHH, THIS?

C'MON, LET'S GO!!

IT DOESN'T MATTER!

IT'S BY MERE CHANCE.

BUT YOU STILL MANAGED TO FIND THIS PLACE WITHOUT ANY PROBLEM, HUH.

WAH!

IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR NOT READING THE LETTER, JERK!

TELL ME THE REASON!

IT DOES MATTER!

SFX. <WHACK> <SWISH> <WHACK> <SWISH>

YOU STAY BACK!

SFX. <THWACK>

I DON'T HAVE ANY GRUDGE!

PLEASE STOP, ONIICHAN!*

* "ONIICHAN" = "OLDER BROTHER"

BESIDES ...

BUT...

WHAT IS IT?

SFX. <WHACK>

IT CAN'T BE HELPED!

IT'S BECAUSE I HEARD THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE HE LIKES!

AS IF THERE'S ANY GIRL NICER THAN YOU!

YOU JERK, MAKING MY CUTE KID SISTER CRY!

スッ

SFX. <WHACK> <SWISH>

ISN'T THAT GUY.

THE ONE WHO REJECTED ME...

REALLY?

OW OW OW!

SFX. <THWACK>

HM?

I SEE. YOU DON'T HOLD A GRUDGE ANYMORE, HUH?

YEAHHH, YOU MUSTN'T HOLD GRUDGES AGAINST PEOPLE...

MISTAKE, MISTAKE. WELL!

LET'S GO, LET'S GO.

LESUGI KAZUYA-SAN...

sniff

HE'S SOMEONE MORE WONDER-FUL.

LESUGI TATSUYA ...

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

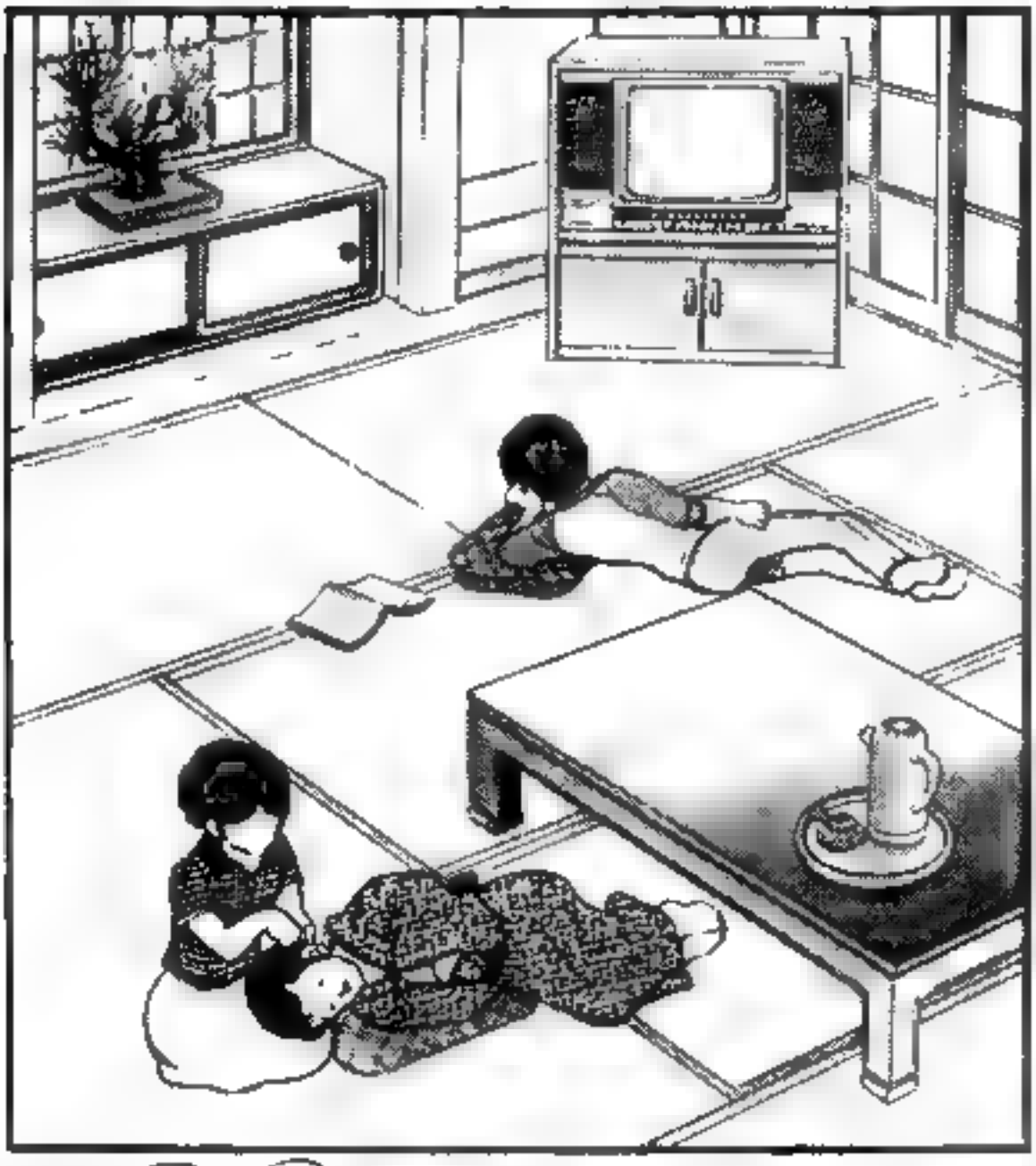
HEY!

LOOK HERE!

Y'KNOW, IF IT'S A MISTAKEN DELIVERY, LET IT BE A LOVE LETTER!

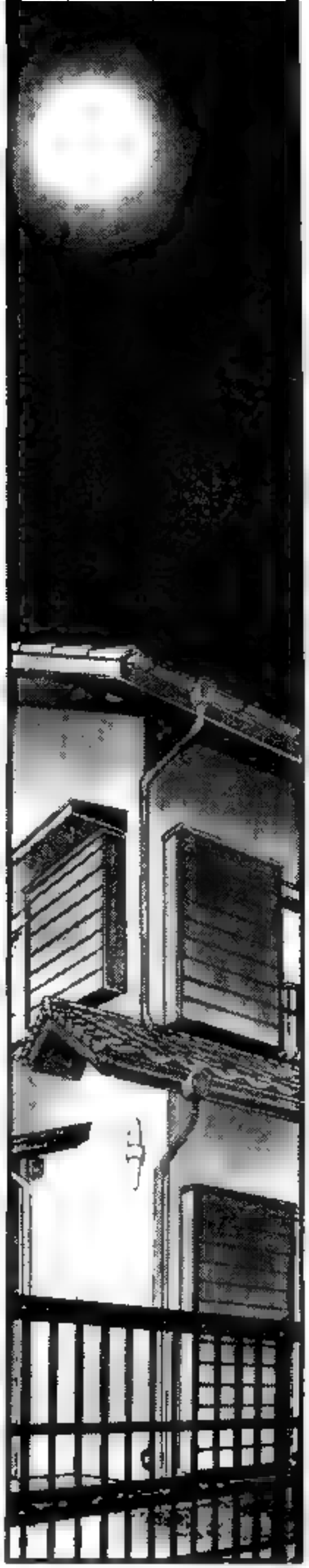
OW OW

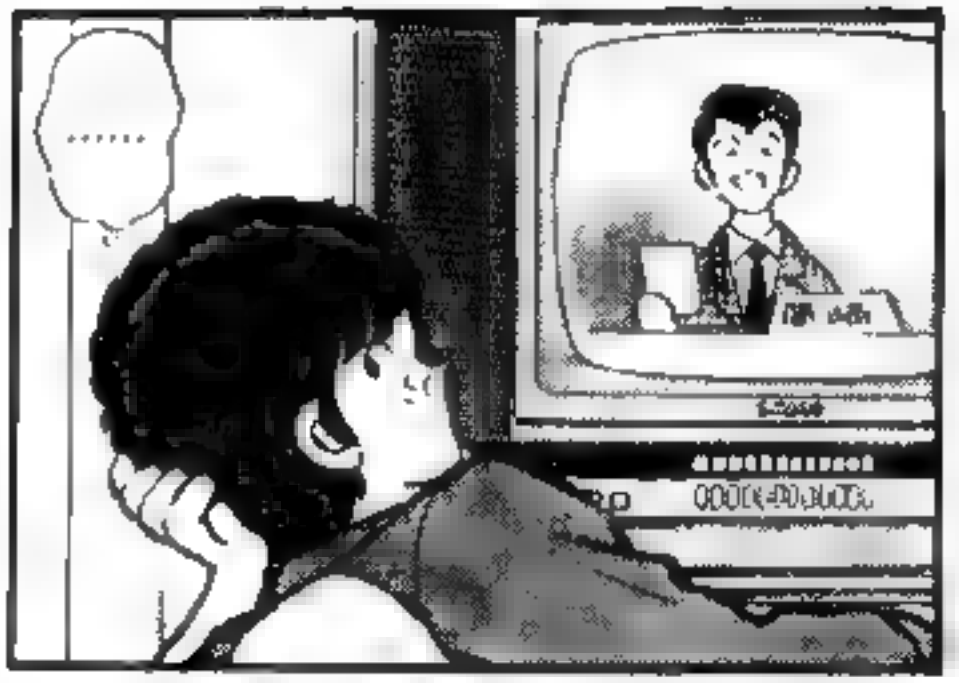
Uesugi



OTOUSAN!
OH NO!
Kya!

KYA!
HEY!




.....

Kya!
Kya!

YES, YES. EXCUSE ME...

KAZUYA AND MINAMI-CHAN ARE STUDYING LIKE THEY SHOULD!!

SHOULD YOU BE WATCHING TV...?
TATSUYA, DON'T YOU HAVE AN EXAM COMING UP SOON?

Kya! Kya!

MY FAMILY, THE UESUGIS, AND THE ASAKURAS, WHO LIVE NEXT DOOR...

TO THEM WERE BORN 3 CHILDREN IN THE SAME YEAR...

GOOD FRIENDS, AND ALWAYS TOGETHER!

AND...

THEY WERE FULL OF ENERGY!

[illegible] CHILDREN, PAID [illegible] FAMILIES...

ONE DAY, THE [illegible] WHO WEREN'T ABLE TO [illegible] ENERGETIC THREE...

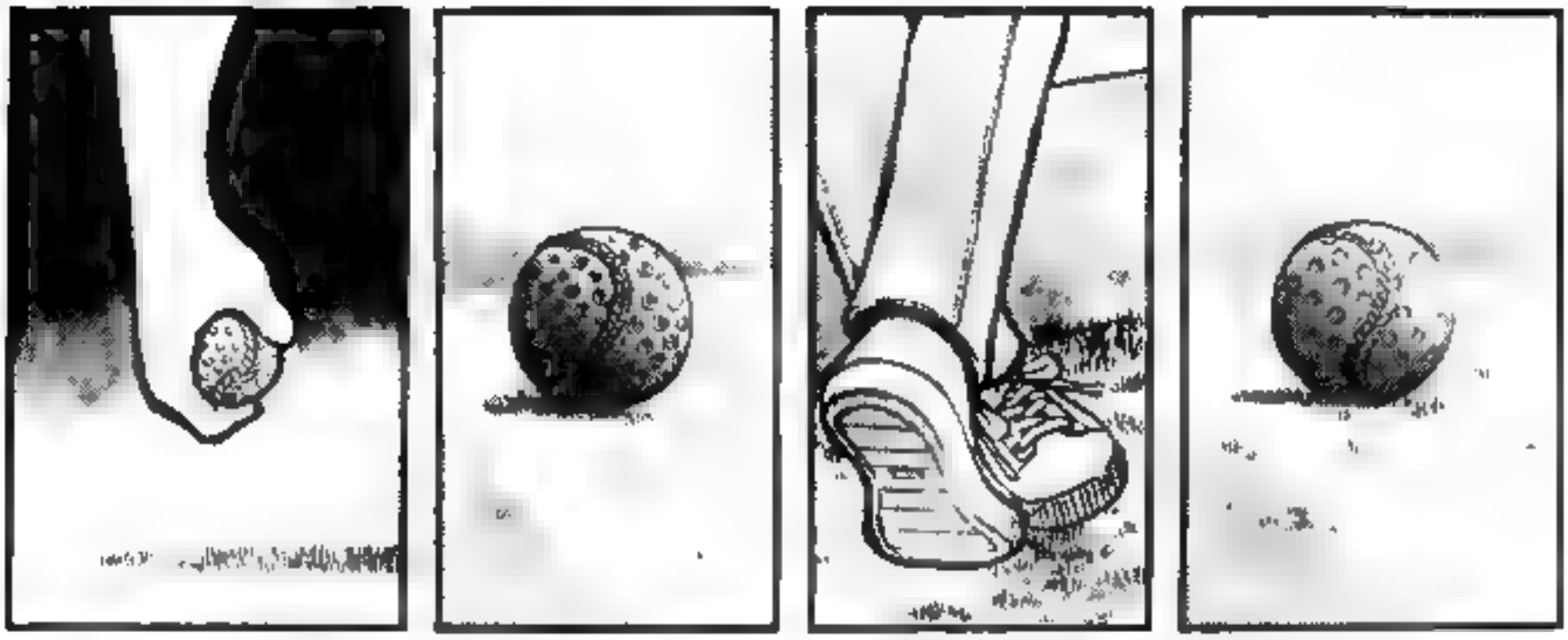
WAS INSTEAD, FROM SOME YEARS BACK, CALLED BY A LOATHSOME NAME, "STUDY ROOM"...

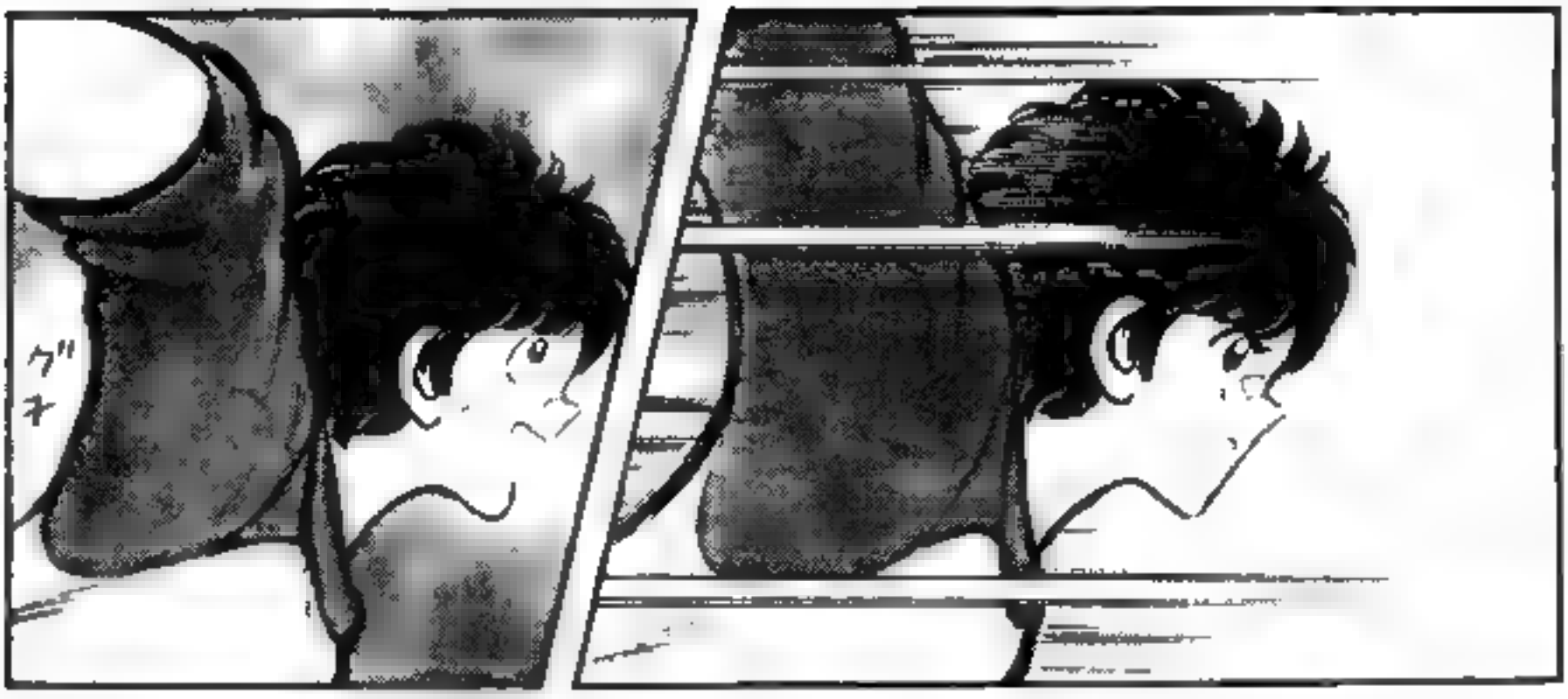
THAT PLACE, WHICH, AT THE BEGINNING, WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A PLAYROOM...

AND...

THAT THEY ALSO BECAME AWARE FOR THE FIRST TIME THAT ONE OF THE 3 WAS A GIRL...

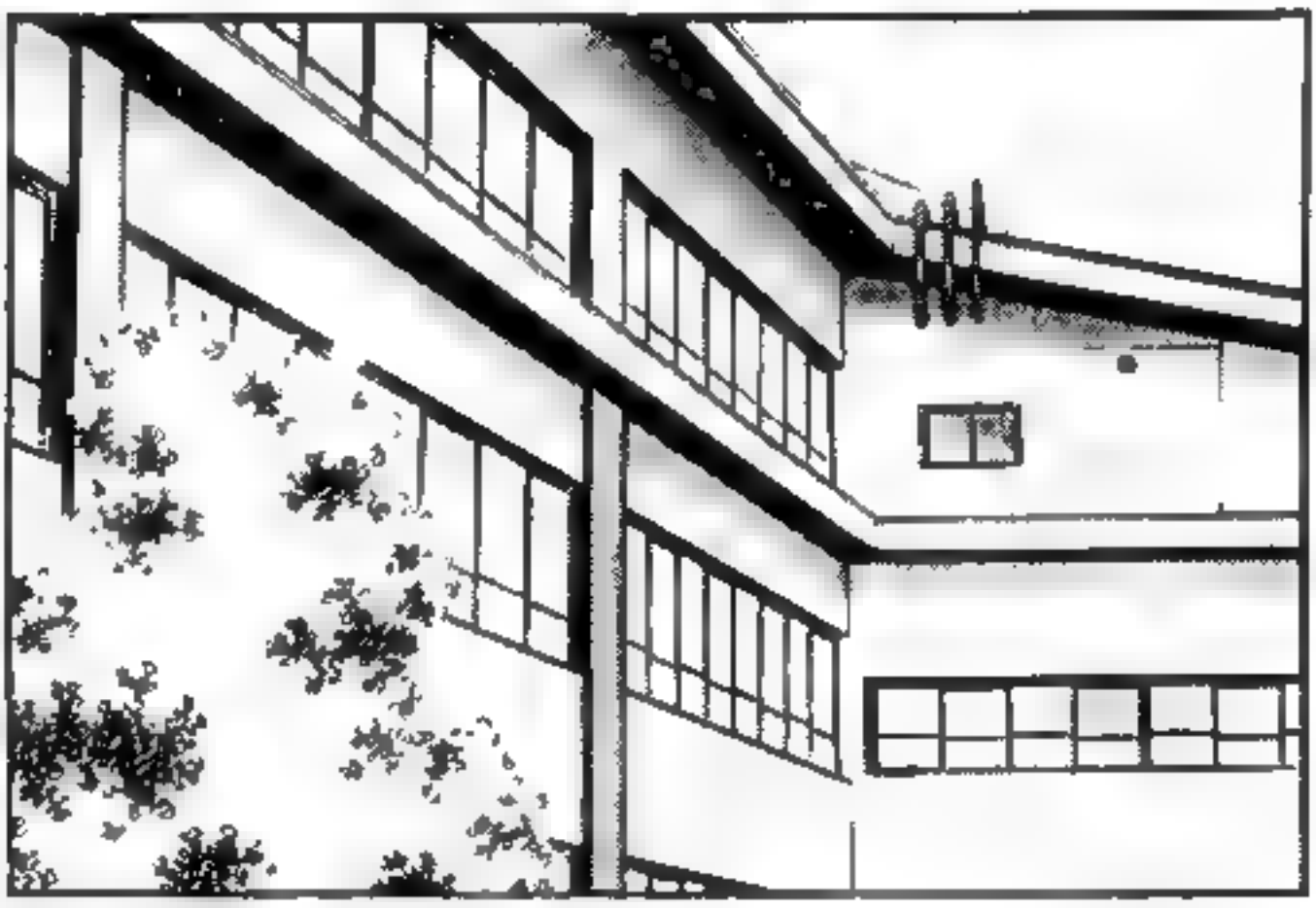
PROBABLY OCCURRED AROUND THEN...





SFX. <CRACK>

3rd year Final Exam Results



1 上杉和也

1 - Uesugi Kazuya

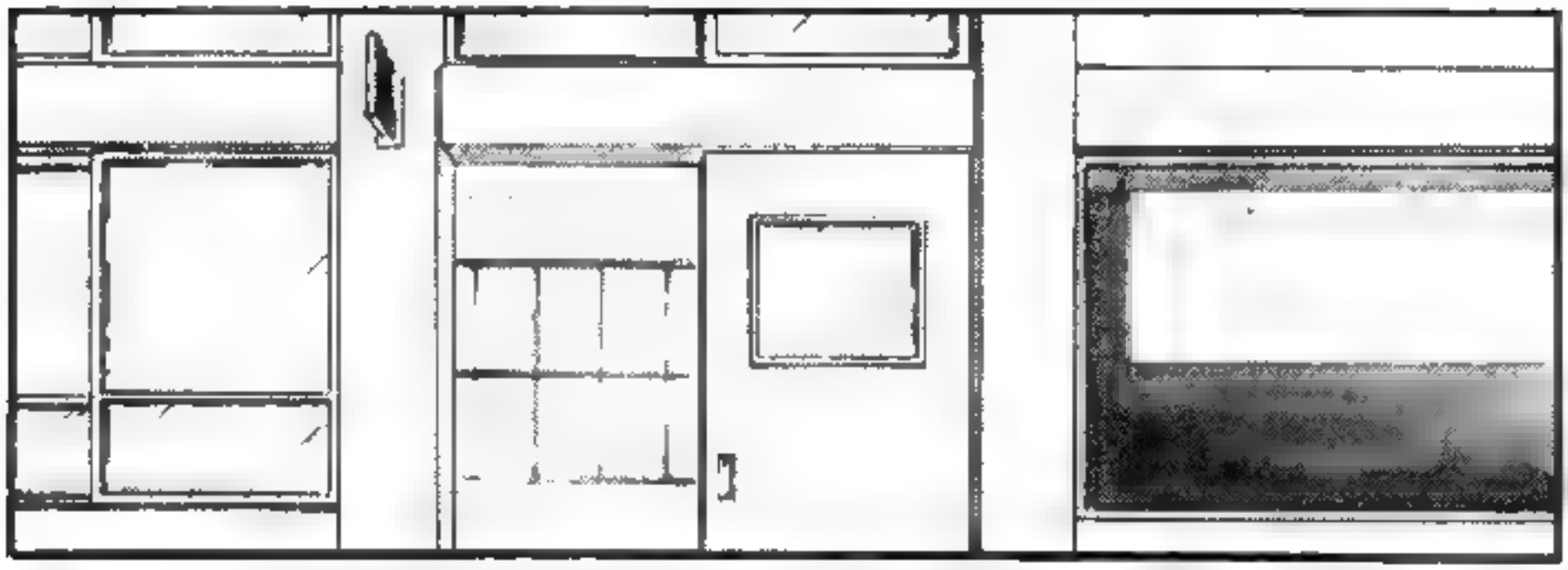
3 浅倉南

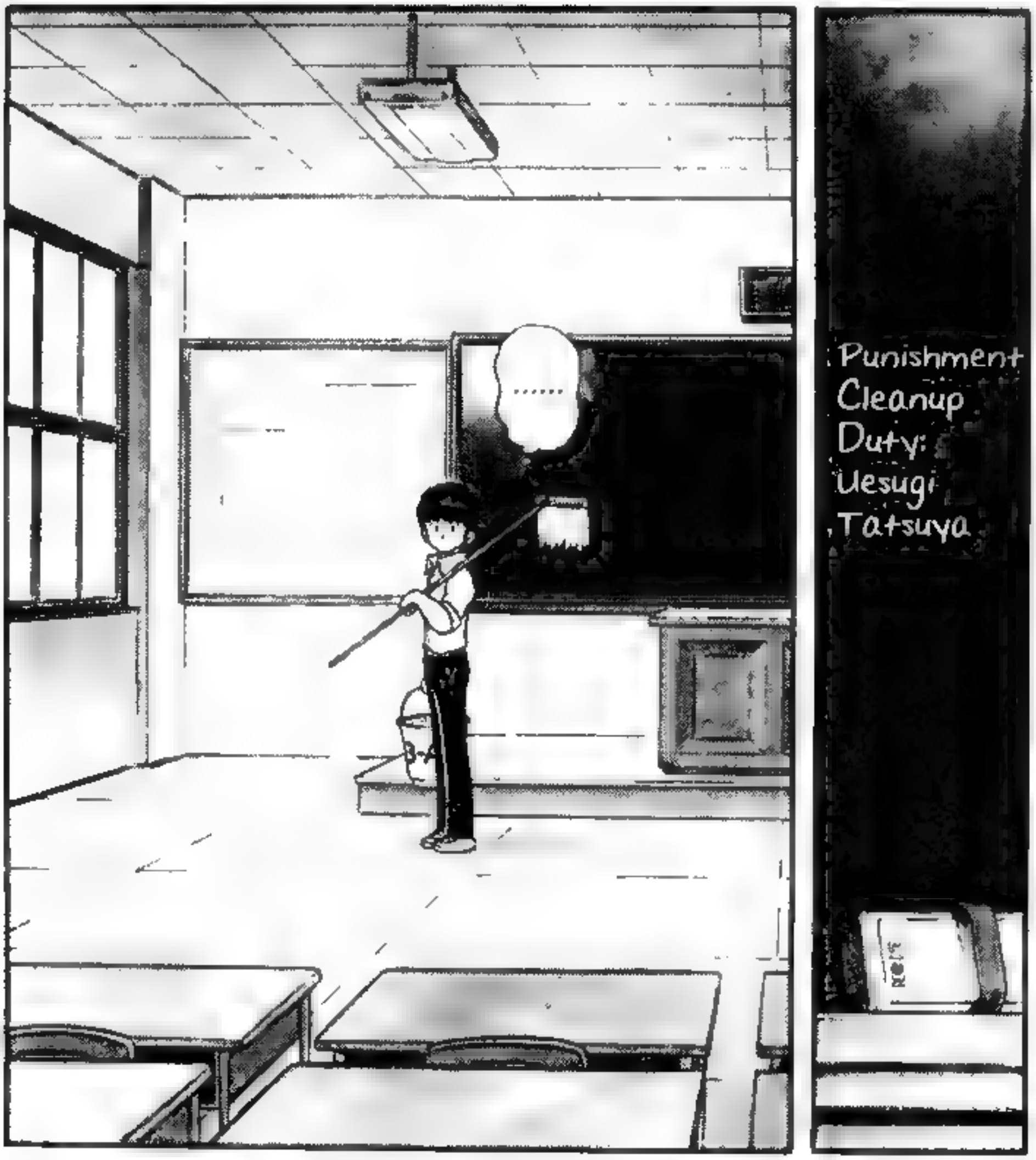
3 - Asakura Minami

5 岩野隆大
6 星文子
7 秋山直也
8 吉田忠彦
9 横倉裕子
10 加藤忠孝

35 下田政則
36 岸陽子
37 新川今日子
38 石田洋一郎
39 矢田恵子

50 小林重夫

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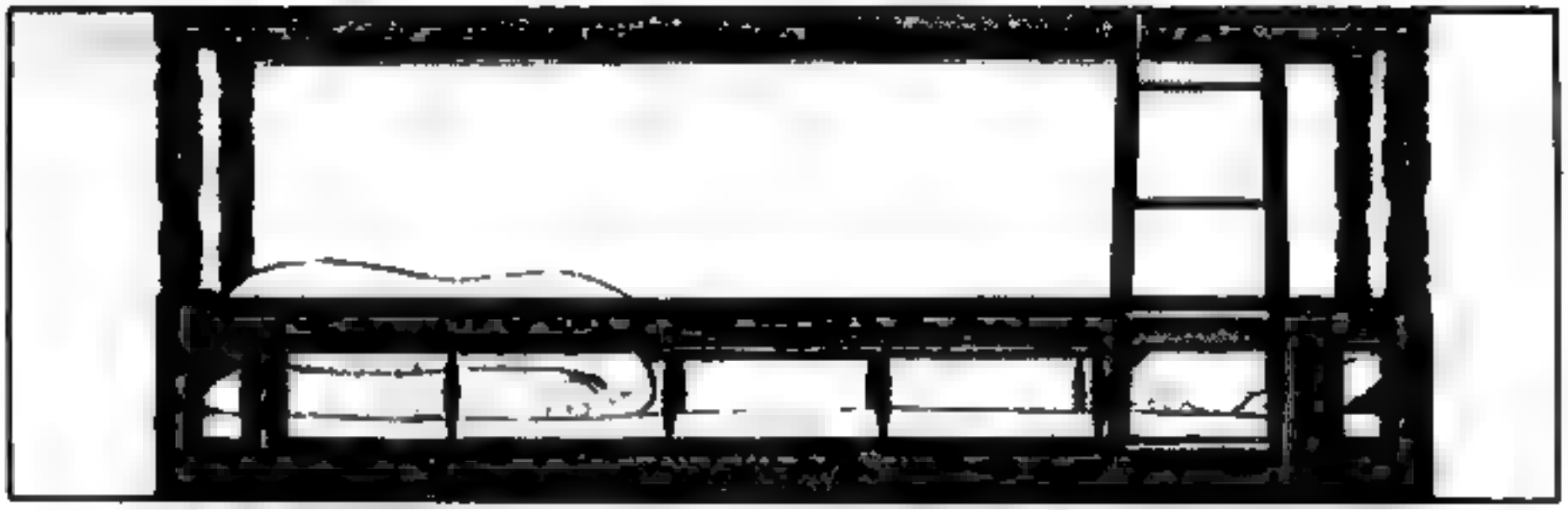
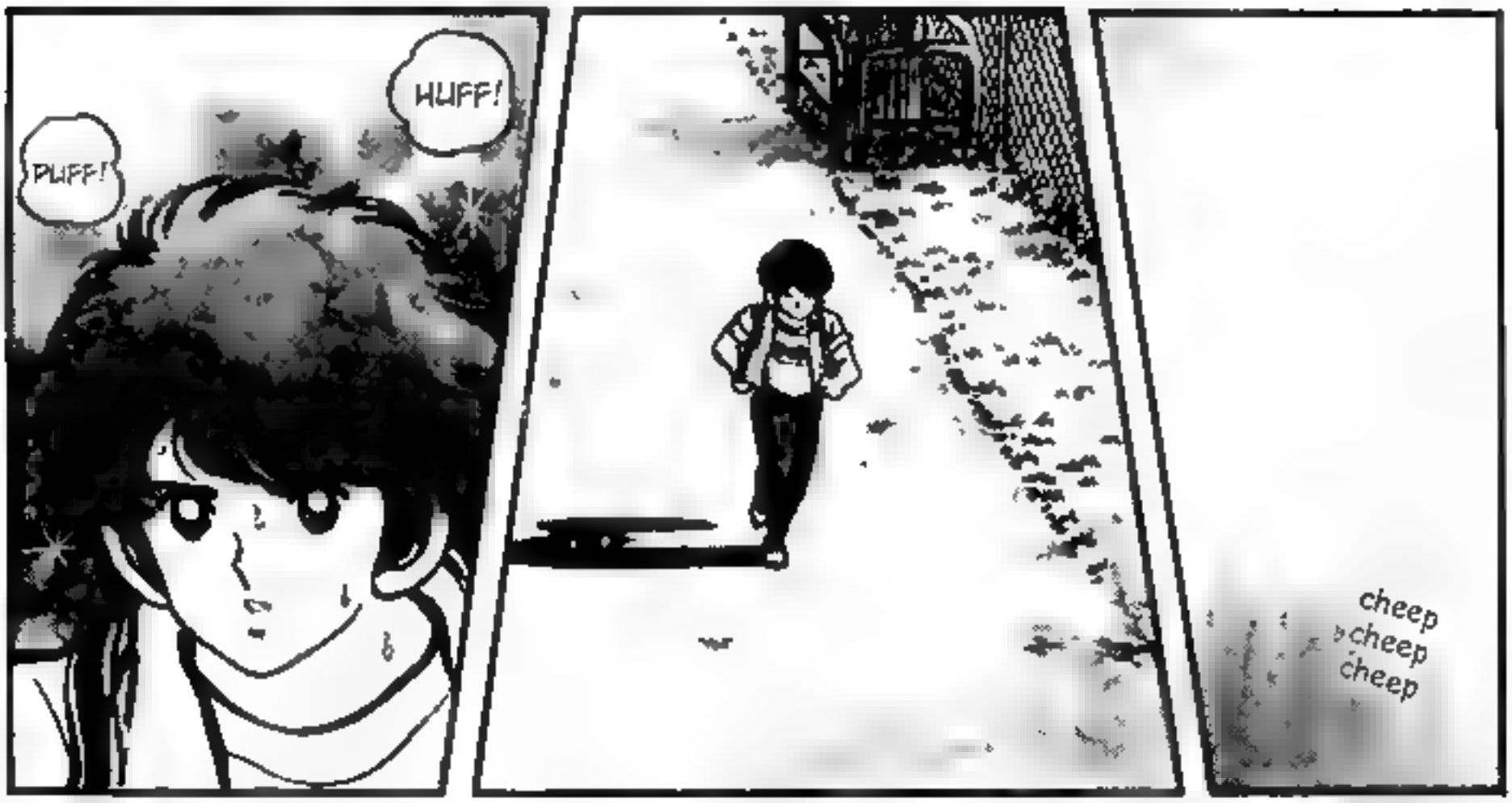
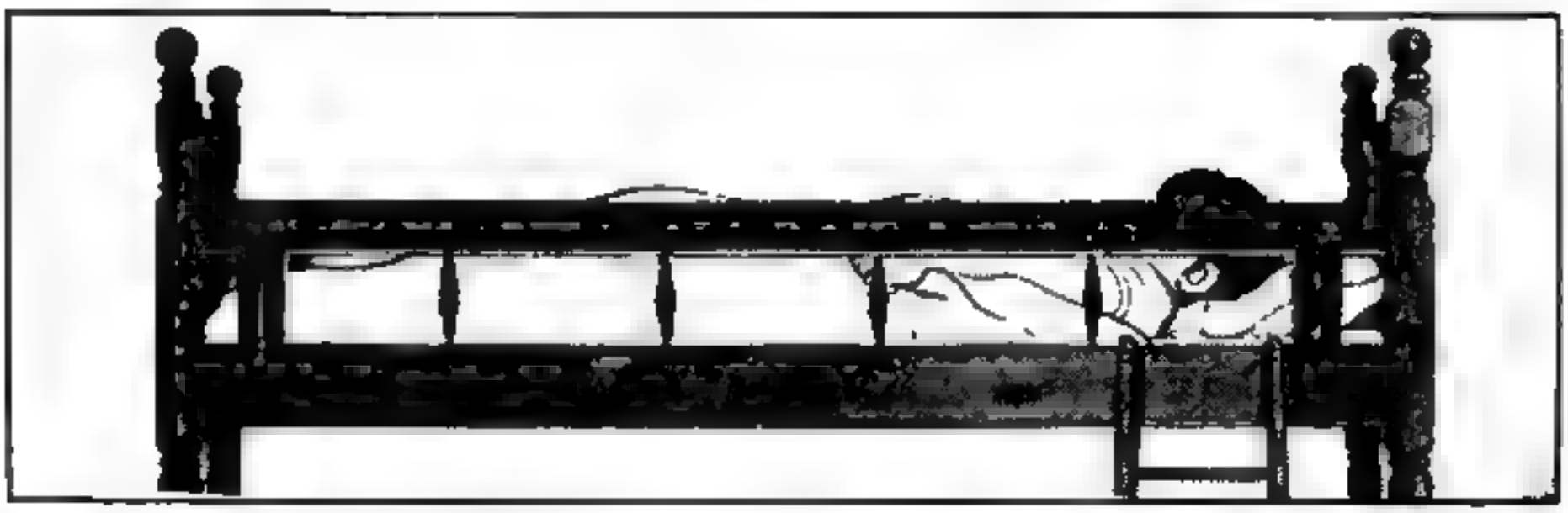
Punishment
Cleanup
Duty:
Uesugi
Tatsuya

Just a Childhood Friend




HUFF!
PUFF!
cheep
cheep
cheep



MMB...

COFFEE
南風
ARF.
ARF.
GOOD MORNING.
準備中
SIGN. NOT OPEN FOR BUSINESS

SQUEAK

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO ARE COUNTING ON YOU, KATCHAN...

WHENEVER HE SEES MY FACE, ALL HE TALKS ABOUT IS KOUSHIEN, KOUSHIEN.

FROM THE GUY AT YAOSHIN AGAIN?

YUP.

BOW.

IT'S ALL RIGHT! IF IT'S YOUR ABILITY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT, IT'S GOOD ENOUGH.

I WON'T KNOW... ...UNTIL I ACTUALLY GET INTO HIGH SCHOOL...

SUCH A PROB-LEM...

CAN'T YOU JUST BELIEVE WHAT MINAMI SAYS!?

ARF!

SOMEONE WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HARA'S UNIFORM NUMBER IS SAYING IRRE-SPONSIBLE THINGS.

GOOD!

I'LL GIVE IT MY BEST SHOT.

YES!

I FEEL LIKE I CAN SORTA DO IT...

CRUNCH

AH!

A GOOD MATCH, A GOOD MATCH.

HEY, OTOUSAN. DON'T START SAYING WEIRD THINGS FROM EARLY IN THE MORNING.

HUH!?

WHEN YOU'RE MARRIED, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL BE UNDER MINAMI'S THUMB, KATCHAN.

OTOUSAN = FATHER

DO YOUR BEST!

WELL, I'VE GOT MORNING PRACTICE, SO...

HURRY YOU! WASH YOUR FACE AND EAT YOUR BREAKFAST!

YES, YES.

I CAN REST EASY, GIVING MY DAUGHTER AWAY IN MARRIAGE ...

HEH HEH

HE HAS A WIDE-OPEN FUTURE AS AN ATHLETE, AND ON TOP OF THAT, HE'S MY NEIGHBOR.

CLEAR-HEADED, EXCELLENT GRADES.

MMB...

CLICK

IT'S OKAY.

I WANT TO SEE THE BASE-BALL TEAM PRACTICE.

IT'S STILL EARLY. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE IT EASY?

I'LL GO WITH YOU!

WAIT A MINUTE, KATCHA!

ENGLISH, MATH, JAPANESE, SCIENCE...

English

PAT

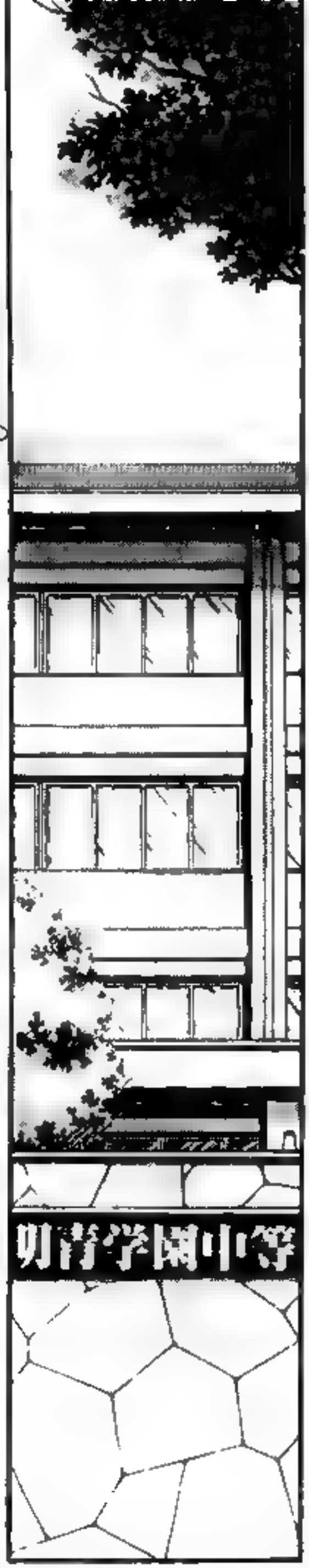
click

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.

SLAM

MUMBLE

M
SFX: SPLAAAT
KAZUYA-KU-U-U!!
KYA!
WOW!
KYA!


明青学園中等

SLAM

CLACK

.....

Edited by nautilus42, from #MangaProject on Da net

EH!?

UESUGI-KU-U-U!?

NOTHING.

HM?

SURE, SURE.

CAN I HAVE A MOMENT?

MY HANDMADE CUSHION.

RIGHT! TO KAZUYA-KUN.

GIVE?

PLEASE GIVE THIS!

THAT'S NO GOOD. IT WOULD BE AWFUL IF I WAS DISCOVERED BY THE OTHER GIRLS...

THIS THING... GIVE IT TO HIM YOURSELF!

HUH!?

IT'S USE-LESS.

PLEASE!

AFTER YOU GET HOME, GIVE IT TO KAZUYA-KUN SECRETLY.

...BUT THERE'S NO **"JUST"** ABOUT IT.

THERE'S NO DOUBT THEY'RE CHILDHOOD FRIENDS...

ASAKURA-SAN SAID THAT SHE'S JUST A CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF KAZUYA-KU!

YOU'RE JOKIN'!

HOW COME?

NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU LIKE KAZUYA!

'CAUSE KAZUYA HAS MINAMI.

タッチ 1

WAHHH
WAHHH

HN.
HN.

Sultry
81

TATCHA!!

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA!?

Y-YO, MINAMI!

WHAT DID YOU SAY TO YASUKO?

NEVER MIND THE WHAT!

WHAT?

HUH?

THE HANDMADE CUSHION YASUKO-CHAN.

OHH!

YASUKO?

MISTAKENLY LETTING THEM HAVE HOPE IS MUCH MORE OF A CRIME!

IT'S NOT "IRRESPONSIBLE".

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT IT!?

WITH YOUR IRRESPONSIBLE WORDS, TATCHAN, THE GIRLS HAVE BEEN THROWN INTO A GREAT UPROAR!

IT'S TRUE THAT THE PARENTS OF BOTH OUR FAMILIES WANT THAT...

THAT'S WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

THAT'S FOR THE TWO INVOLVED TO DECIDE!

THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!

WHEN IS IT THAT MINAMI AND KATCHAN BECAME ENGAGED!?

SEE.

OF COURSE NOT.

AND FOR THE SAKE OF EVERYONE ELSE, TOO, IF YOU JUST MADE THINGS CLEAR?

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR THE SAKE OF YOU TWO...

OH?

DO YOU DISLIKE KAZUYA?

NOBODY KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN, RIGHT!

HEYYY! MARRIAGE AND STUFF, THERE'S STILL A LOT TO COME IN THE FUTURE!

A WEIRD GUY LIKE YOU, TATCHAN!

IT'S EVEN POSSIBLE THAT I'LL MARRY, AT SOME POINT BY MISTAKE,

EVEN I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON I MIGHT COME TO LOVE!

WHO KNOWS HOW WONDERFUL A PERSON MIGHT TURN UP FOR KATCHAN IN THE FUTURE!

AH, THAT'S ... JUST AN EXAMPLE.

OKAY? EXPLAIN IT STRAIGHT TO EVERYONE.

YOU JERK. GIMME BACK MY BOOK!

AH, THERE HE IS!

THANK YOU.

YOU'RE CUTE AS USUAL...

HI, MINAMI-CHAN.

IT'S THE KID BROTHER WHO'S SUSPI-CIOUS.

NO, IT'S NOT SUSPI-CIOUS.

IT'S SUSPI-CIOUS!

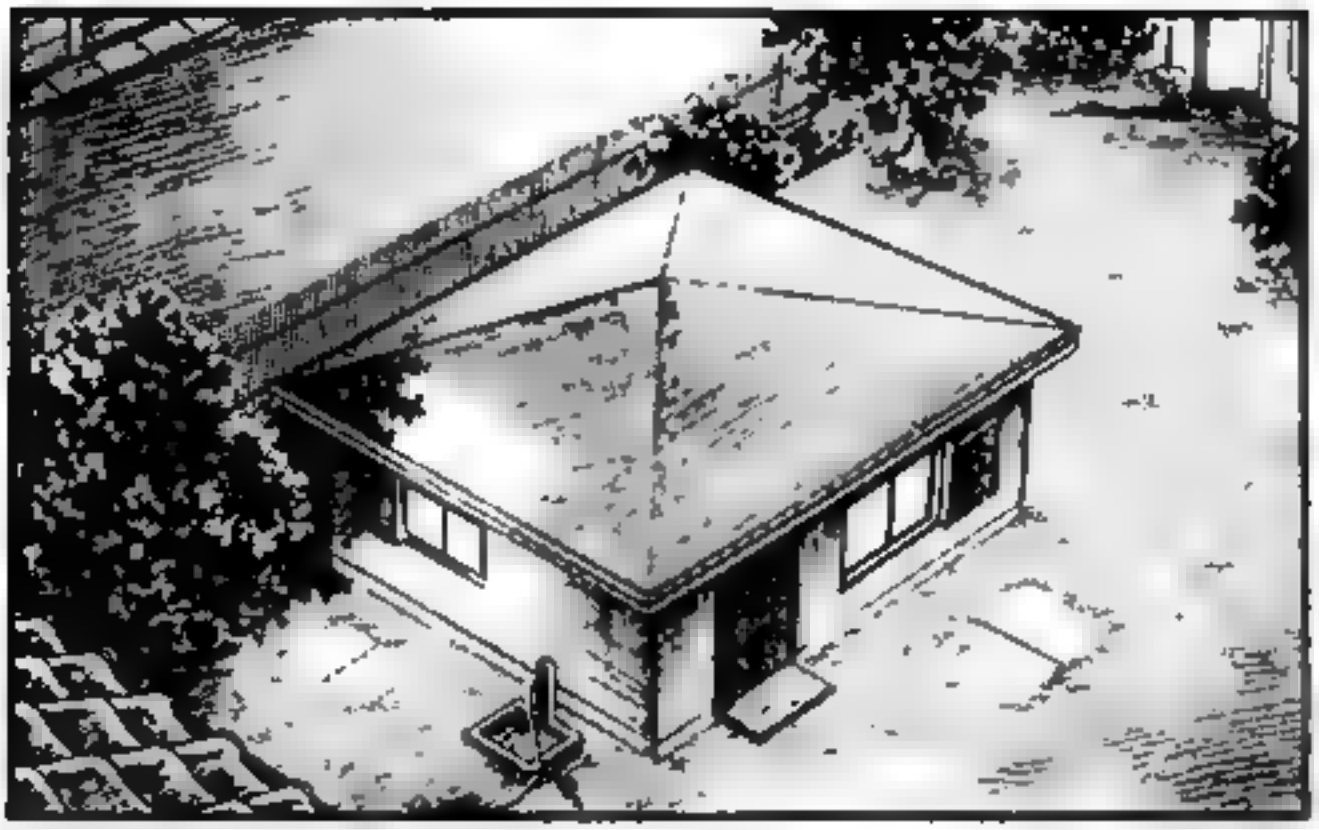
NOTHING SPECIAL.

HEY, WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HEY,

.....

THIS ONE'S JUST A CHILDHOOD FRIEND.

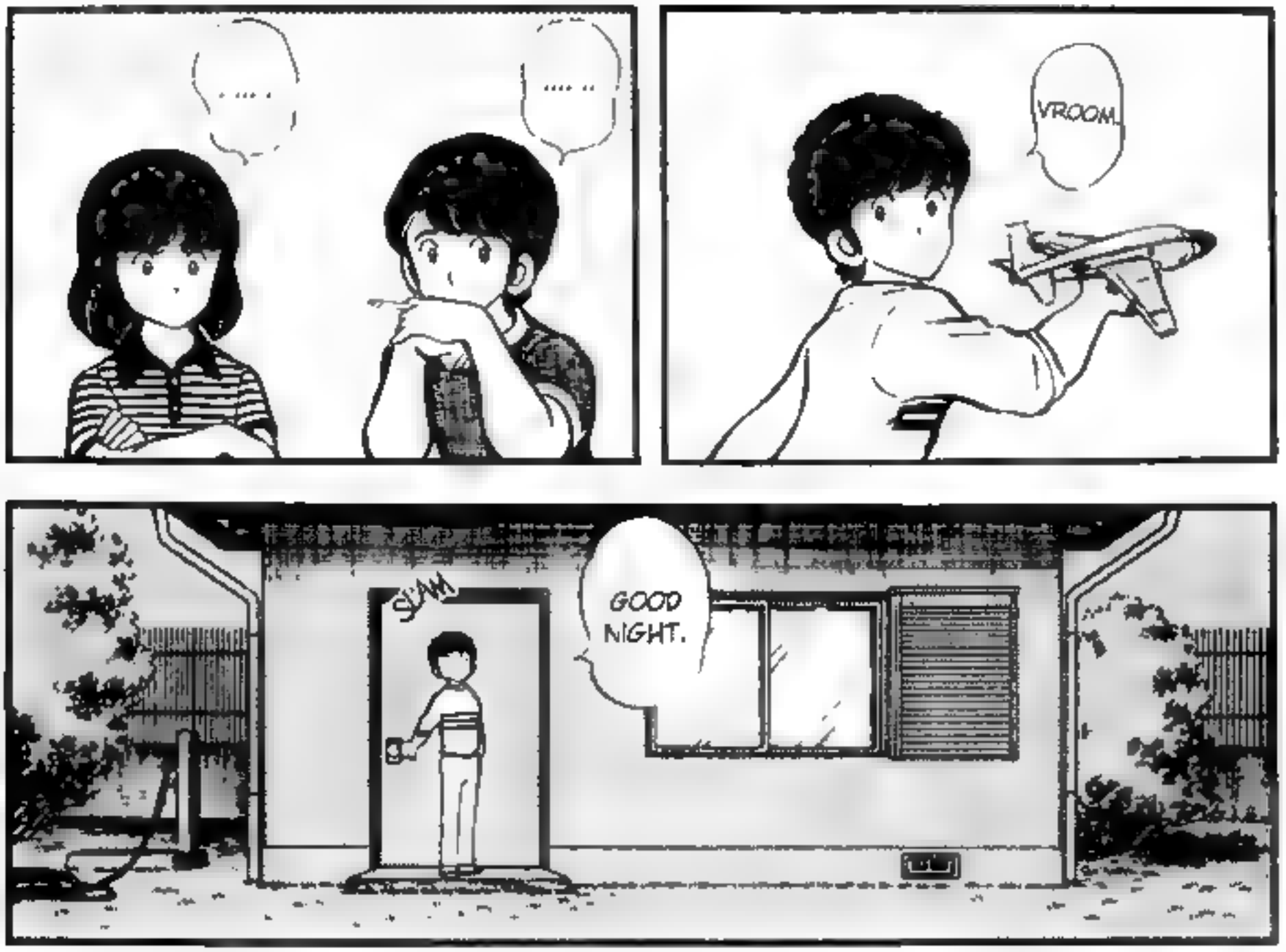


LET'S SEE, THAT'S...

SAY, KATCHAN. WHAT'S THIS?

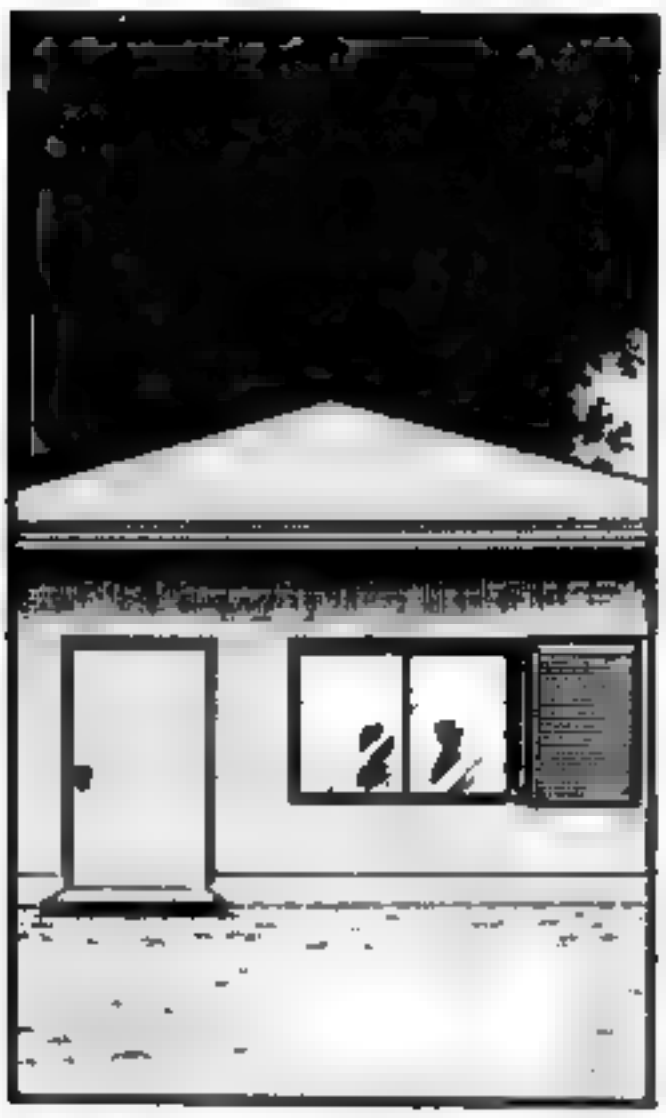
FINISHED!

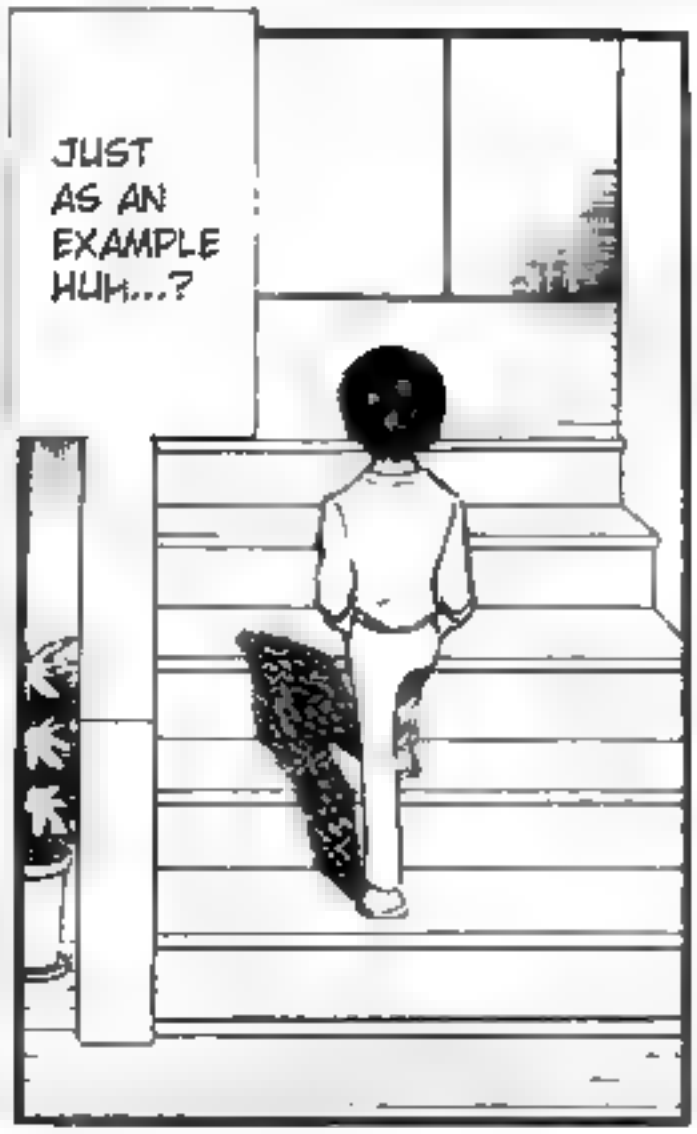
VRRRR OOOOO OOM!


. . . . .
. . . . .
VROOM.
SLAM
GOOD NIGHT.

THIS WEDDING DRESS?
HOW'S THIS?
LOOK.
SHINKON
OH NO, I'M SURE KATCHAN WOULD LOOK GREAT IN A GROOM'S OUTFIT, TOO!!
OH.
MINAMI-CHAN WOULD LOOK GOOD IN IT.

....
OHHHH, I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT.




JUST AS AN EXAMPLE HUH...?

MMB...

Reaping What You Sow

SORRY-
Y-Y!

CRACK

HERE IT
CO-O-
OMES!

SFX. <THWACK>

Ed ted by p sk from #MangaProject on Dalnet

OW-
OUCH!

THUD
THUD

WHEN WE GET TO HIGH SCHOOL JOIN A CLUB.

YOU'RE OUT OF SHAPE, ANIKI.

WH-
OA.

SPLAT!

WHISH

OH,
AWESOME,
AWESOME!

GOOD ARM, HUH!?

MangaProject.cjb.net

GOT IT!

MINA-MI!

SFX. <SPLAT!>

HEH HEH.

DON'T WATCH SPORTS WITH LEWD EYES...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT?

AROUND HERE.

WHAT PART OF MY EYES ARE LEWD?

NOTH-ING.

DAMN!

WANNA FIGHT!?

OH!?

YOU JERK!

THE GIRLS ON THE SWIM TEAM HAVE STARTED THEIR PRACTICE!!

HE-E-EY, TATSUYA!

YOU WERE WATCHING WITH LEWD EYES AFTER ALL!

AH!

IT'S ONLY YOUR BODY THAT'S BECOME WOMANLY...

REALLY! CAN'T BE HELPED... THAT OLDER ONE.

A CASE OF TWINS BEING THAT DIFFERENT IS UNUSUA...

EH!?

JEEZ!

NEISE!

OKA-A-AY!

EVEN SO, HE'S AN OLD CHILDHOOD FRIEND OF MINE, Y'KNOW!

HEY, THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN.

WEAK, HUH, THAT ONE.

ALL THE GOOD POINTS WERE TAKEN BY KAZUYA-KUN.

WHEN IT'S SAID BY SOMEONE ELSE, FOR SOME REASON I GET ANGRY...

HUH?

THOSE ARE THE LINES THAT YOU ALWAYS SAY, MINAMI!

SEE YOU LATER, MINAMI.

GOOD-BYE.

HELLO.

AH!

I'M SAKURAGI KOUSUKE, 3RD-YEAR STUDENT FROM SHIRAI TECHNICAL HIGH!

YES!

WHO ... ...ARE YOU?

HUH?

I'M THE MASCULINE, STRONG, KIND-HEARTED SAKURAGI KOUSUKE!

HUH?

YOU'VE HEARD OF ME FROM UESUGI TATSUYA-KUN, RIGHT?

I'M THE MASCULINE, MUSCULAR, KIND-HEARTED SAKURAGI KOUSUKE!

THEN, YOU KNOW, RIGHT!?

HUH?

YES...

UESUGI TATSUYA IS YOUR CHILD-HOOD FRIEND, RIGHT?

HERE I AM, THE MASCULINE, MUSCULAR, KIND-HEARTED SAKURAGI KOUSUKE!

Y'KNOW, I'M THE ONE WHO'D LIKE TO GO OUT WITH YOU...

HUH?

NOTHING AT ALL?

FROM UESUGI TATSUYA...

YOU HAVEN'T HEARD OF ME?

NO.

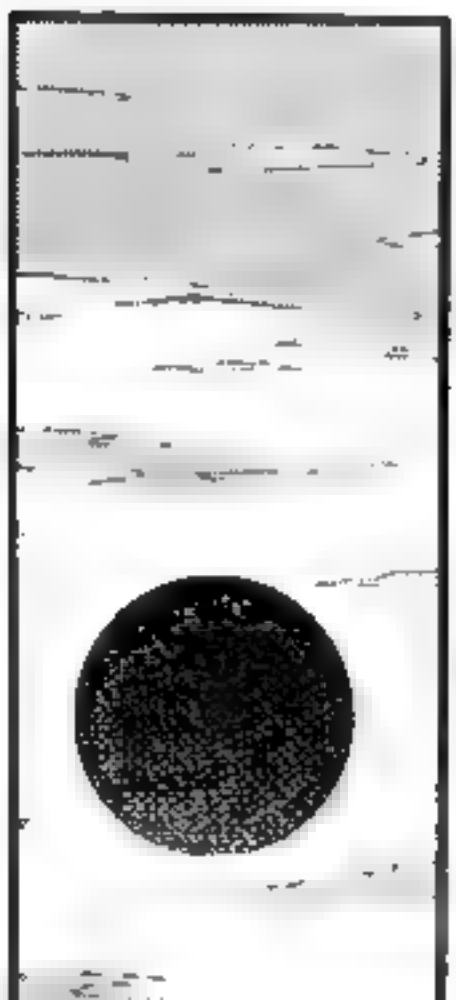
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?

COM-PLETELY!

EH?

THAT JER-R-RK!!

WHO WAS THAT JUST NOW?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MINAMI?



EH?

THAT JER-R-RK.

AND SO, THE NEXT DAY...

REALLY!!?

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE LYING IN WAIT FOR SOMEONE FROM OUR SCHOOL...

WHISH!

SFX: <SPLAT>

THE MEMBERS OF THE SHIRAI TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL BOXING TEAM HAVE GATHERED IN THE FIELD OVER THERE!

SFX: <SPLAT>

TAT-CHAN!?

BYE.

THWEET

I SEE.

NOTHING ...

AH!

HM?

YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW...

SFX. <SWISH!>

HE'S HERE!

MAKING A FOOL OUT OF SOMEONE!

HI... MY EYE. YOU JERK!

HI...

MAKING IT ALL SOUND GOOD!

HUH?

I'LL SET YOU TWO UP, HUH?

MINAMI WILL LISTEN TO ANYTHING I SAY, HUH?

IS THIS THE TIME TO BE LAUGHING!?

HA HA...

WELL?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR PROMISE OF AIRING THIS COMMERCIAL TO HER ONCE A DAY?

THE MASCULINE, MUSCULAR, KIND-HEARTED SAKURAGI KOUSUKE!

WHA-A-AT!?

THIS FACE MAKES ME SO TIRED...

HOW DARE YOU TRAMPLE ON THE INNOCENCE OF A TENDER AND HELPLESS YOUTH!

MAKING ME TREAT YOU TO A WHOLE LOTTA EATING AND DRINKING!

HOW MUCH WAS IT?

I'M SORRY. I'LL RETURN YOUR COMMERCIAL FEE.

AH, NO, NOTHING ...

WAH!

STUPID JERK! IT ISN'T A QUESTION OF MONEY!

SFX: <WHISH!>

OF COURSE... WHO DO YOU THINK I AM!?

HEH HEH...

YOU HAVE AMAZING QUICK-NESS.

WHACK!

URP!

I'M A MIDDLE-WEIGHT WHO MADE IT TO THE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TOURNA...

I'M STILL... TALKING...

SHI-I-IT, GET 'IM!

AND THERE'S SO MANY OF YOU...

BUT, EITHER WAY, THERE'S GONNA BE A FIGHT...

BASTARD! THAT WAS DIRTY!!

YEAH!!

CLICK!

TATCHAN!

HM?

...FINE...

YOU SEEM...

WHAT IS IT?

SNAP

AH, KATCHAN!

CAN I PASS BY?

IF THIS WAS THE HIGH SCHOOL TEAM, YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GO TO KOUSHIEN!!

BASEBALL PLAYERS MUSTN'T FIGHT.

WHAT'S THIS, WHAT'S THIS!?

...PS?

SQUEAK..

WHU...?

HA! HA!

WHUMP!

5000

OW-
OW-
OUCH.

.....

.....

Brimming with Talent

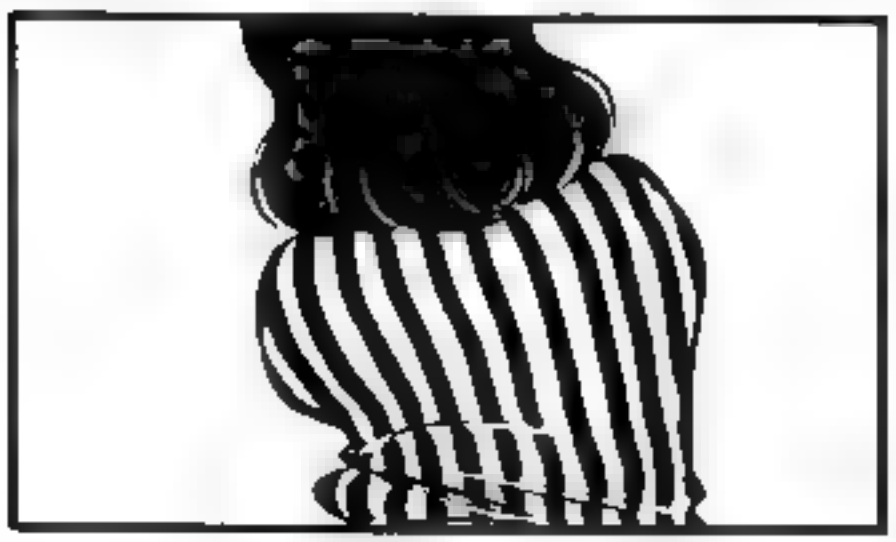
SLAM!

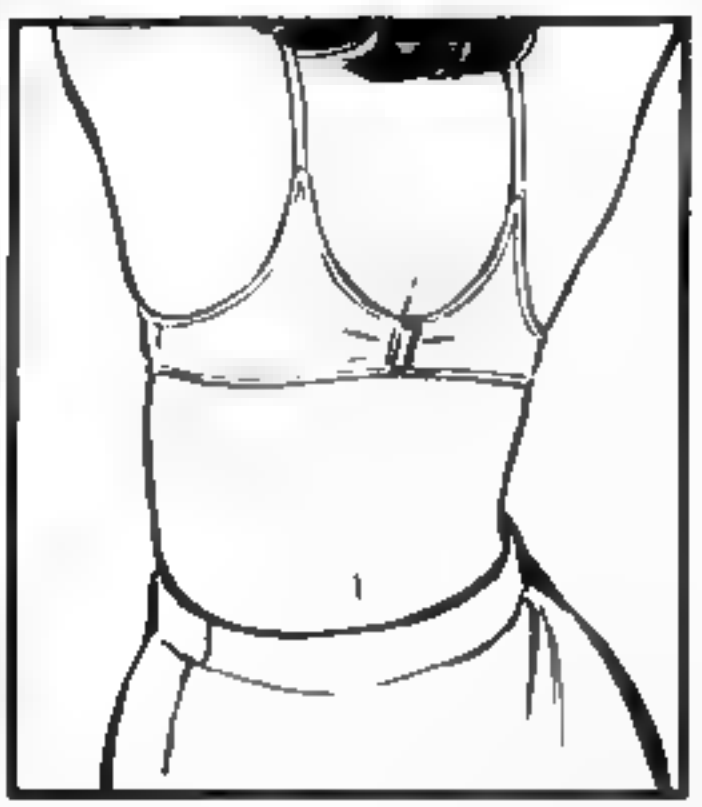
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

TOSS

CRUMPLE

SWISH!





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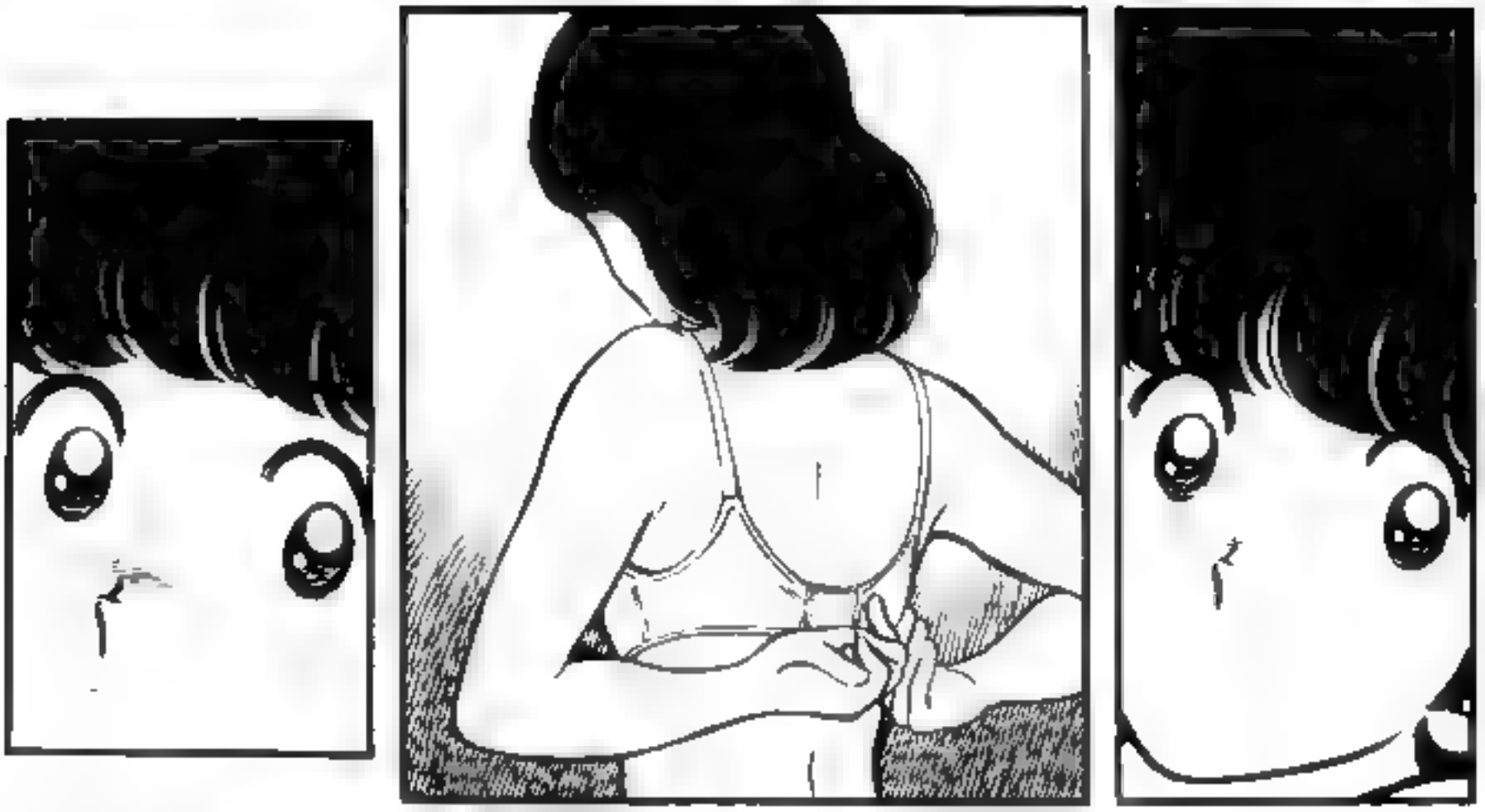
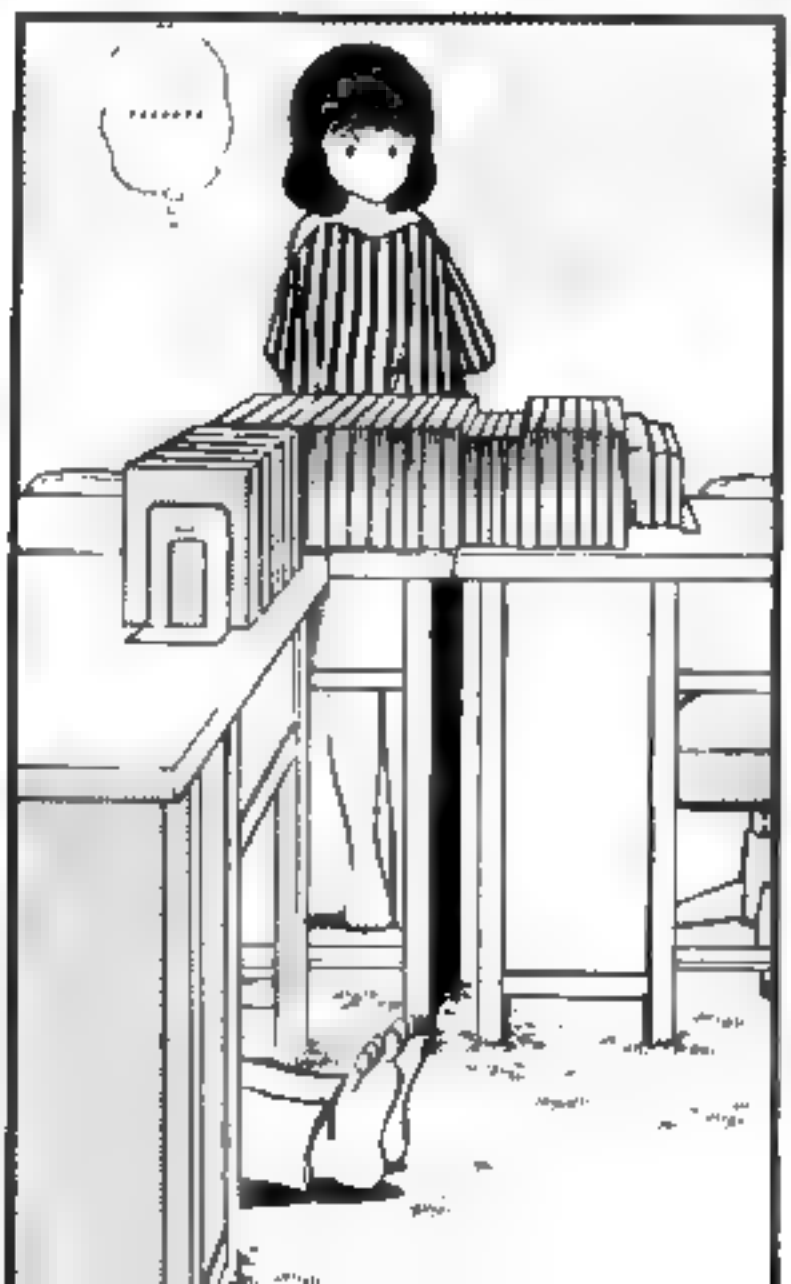


A...
AHEM!

AHEM.


.....

HUH?

GO STUDY... KAZUYA'S SO GREAT...

IF I LOAF ABOUT AT HOME MY PARENTS BUG ME.

IT'S A FREE COUNTRY.

WH-WHY ARE YOU SLEEPING IN A PLACE LIKE THAT!?

YOU STARTED TAKING OFF YOUR CLOTHES ALL ON YOUR OWN, DIDN'T YOU.

YOU SAW!

A REAL LECH WOULD HAVE KEPT HIS BREATHING QUIET AND WATCHED UNTIL YOU WERE DONE.

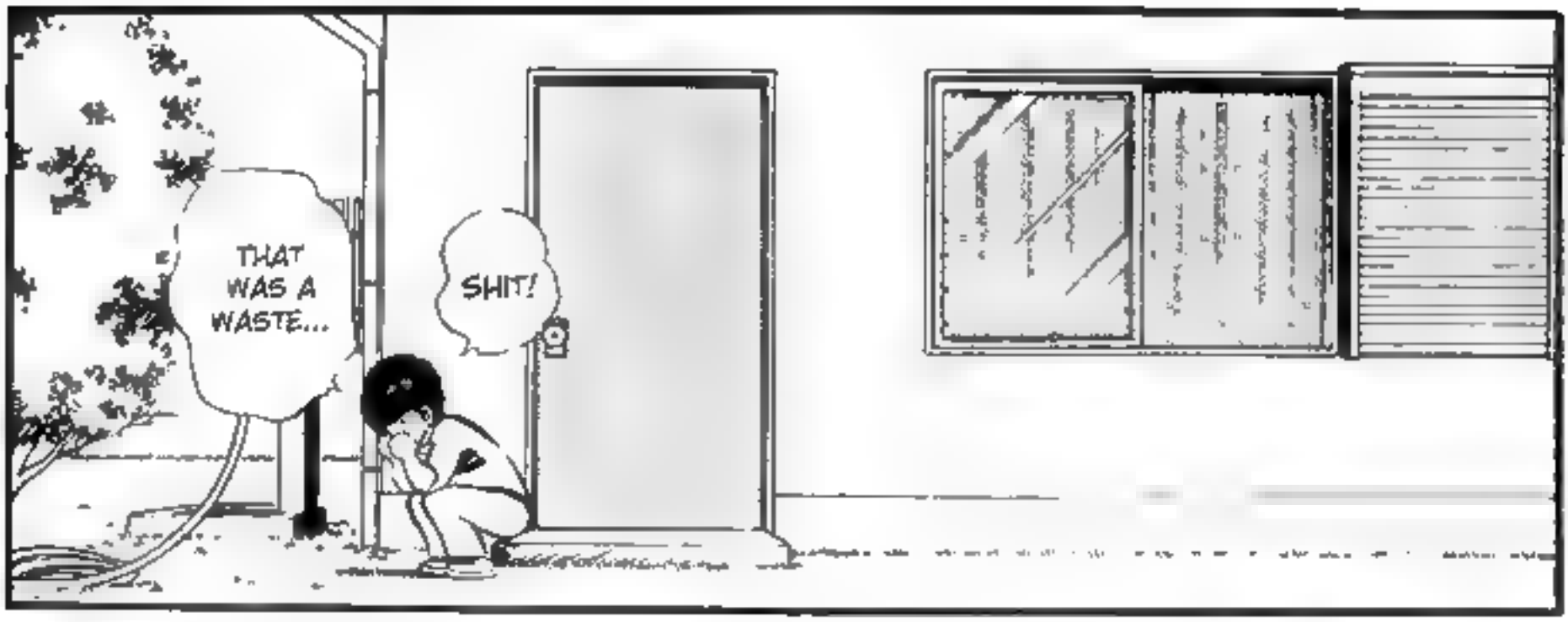
DUM-MY.

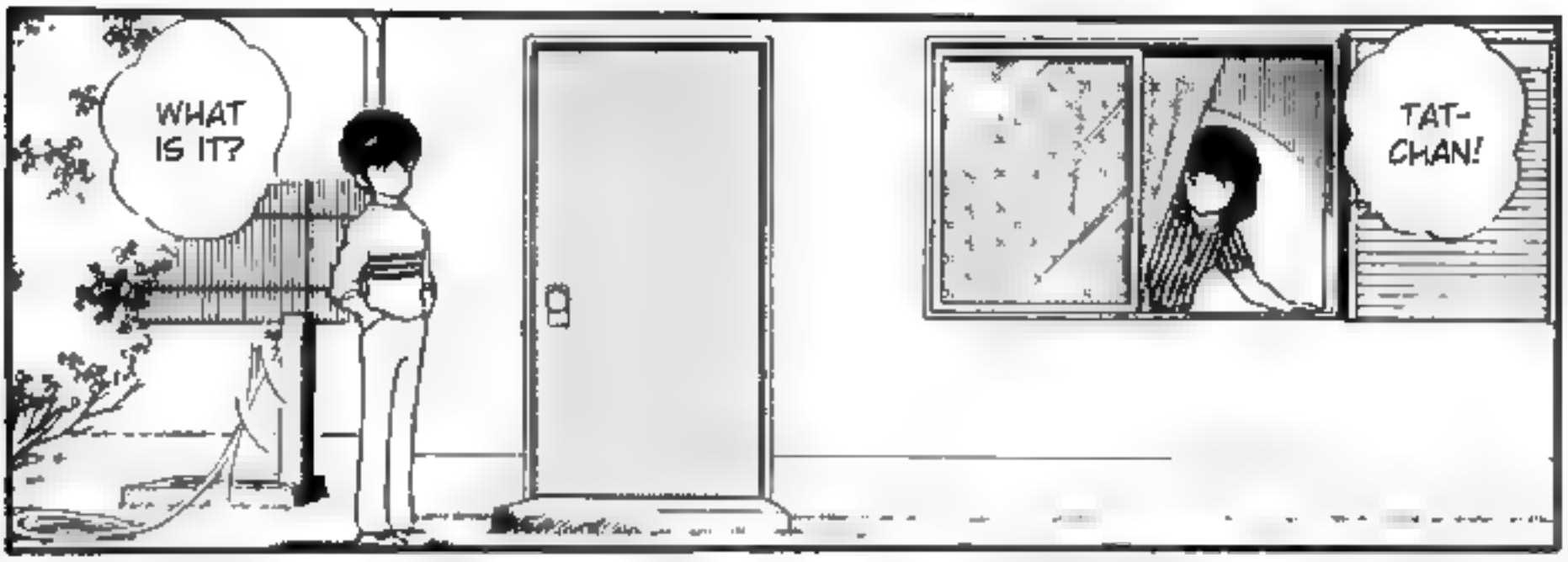
LECH!

HMM.

.....

SLAM!


THAT WAS A WASTE...
SHIT!

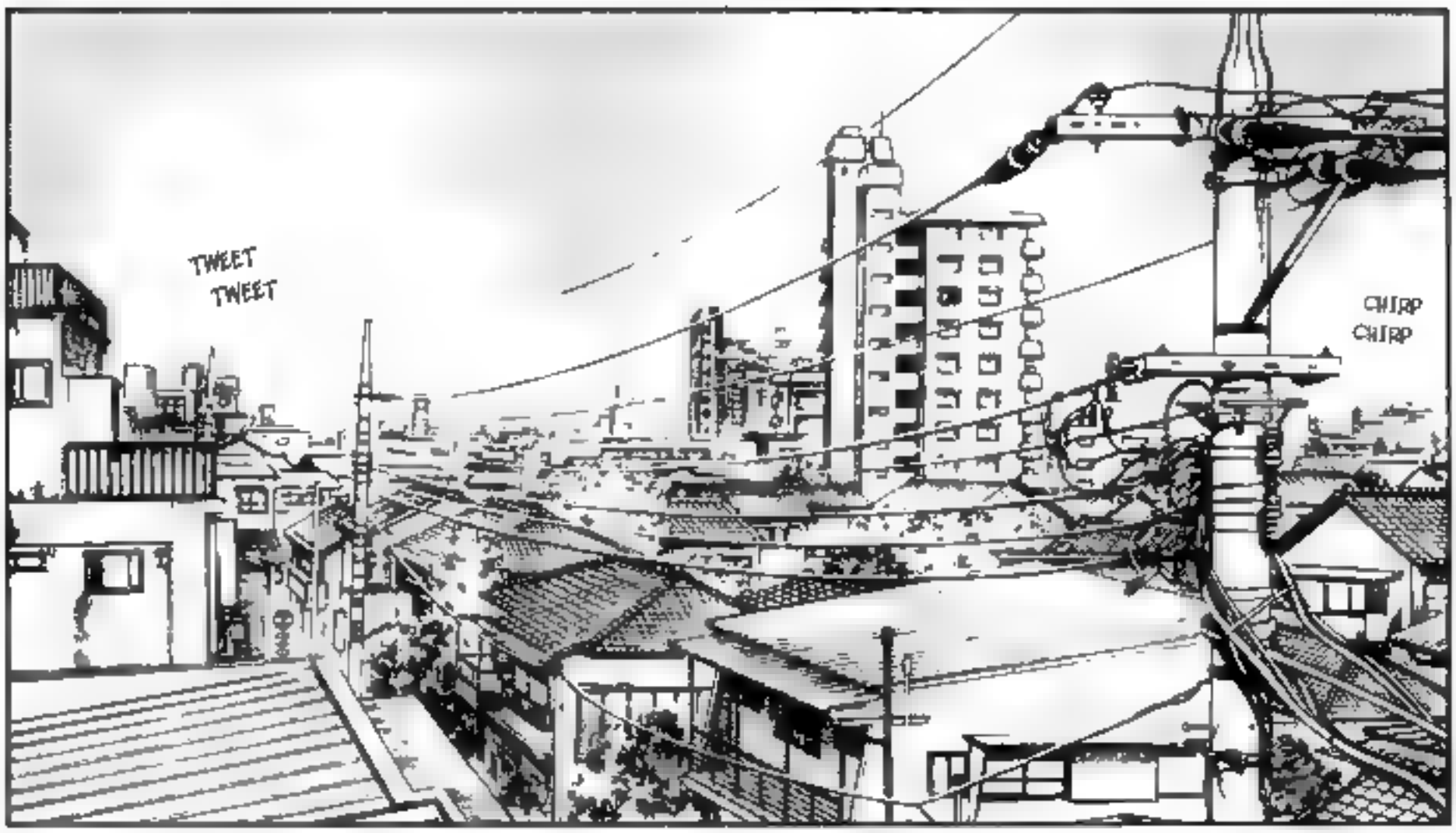

WHAT IS IT?
TAT-CHAN!

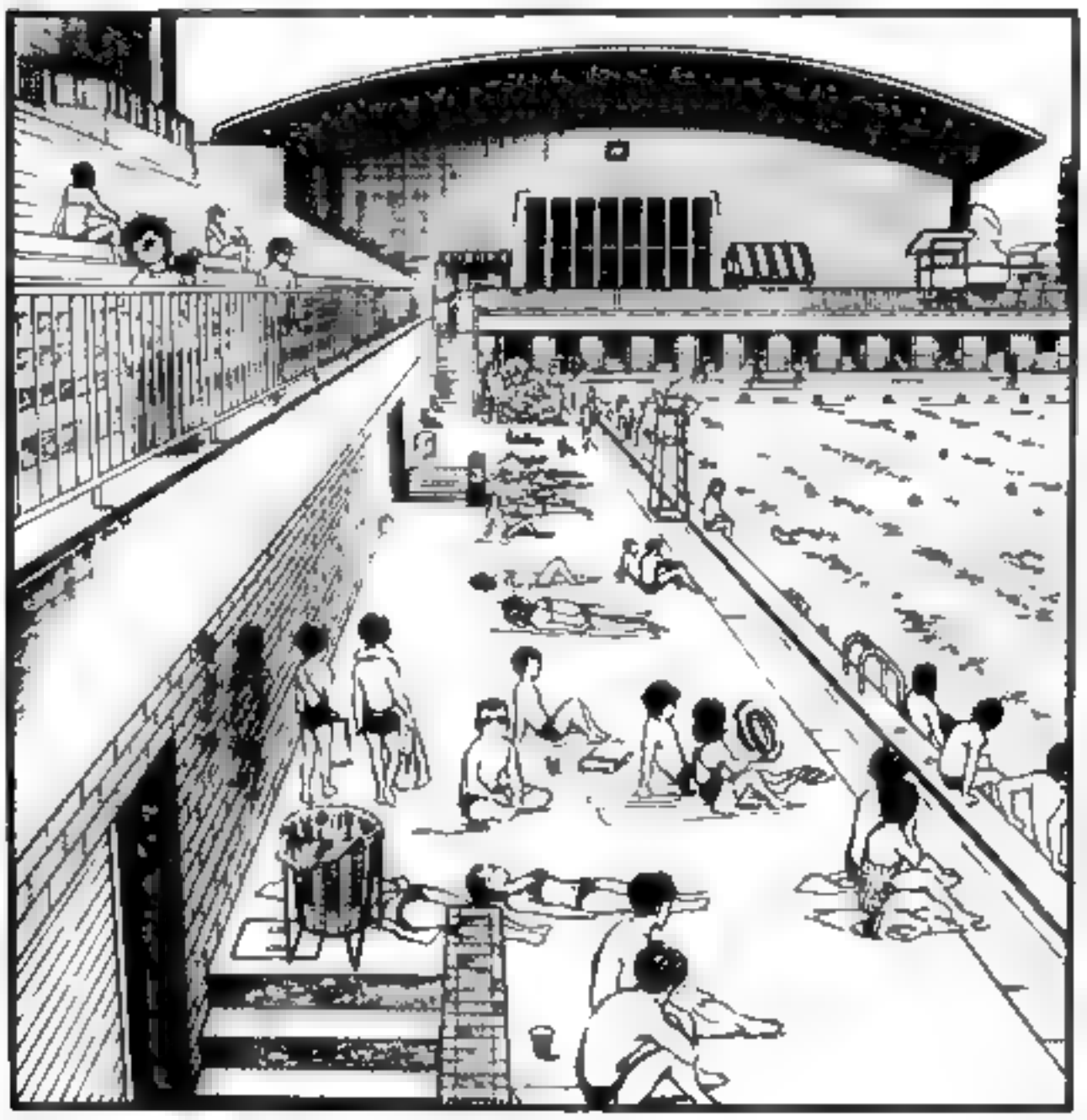
FEH!

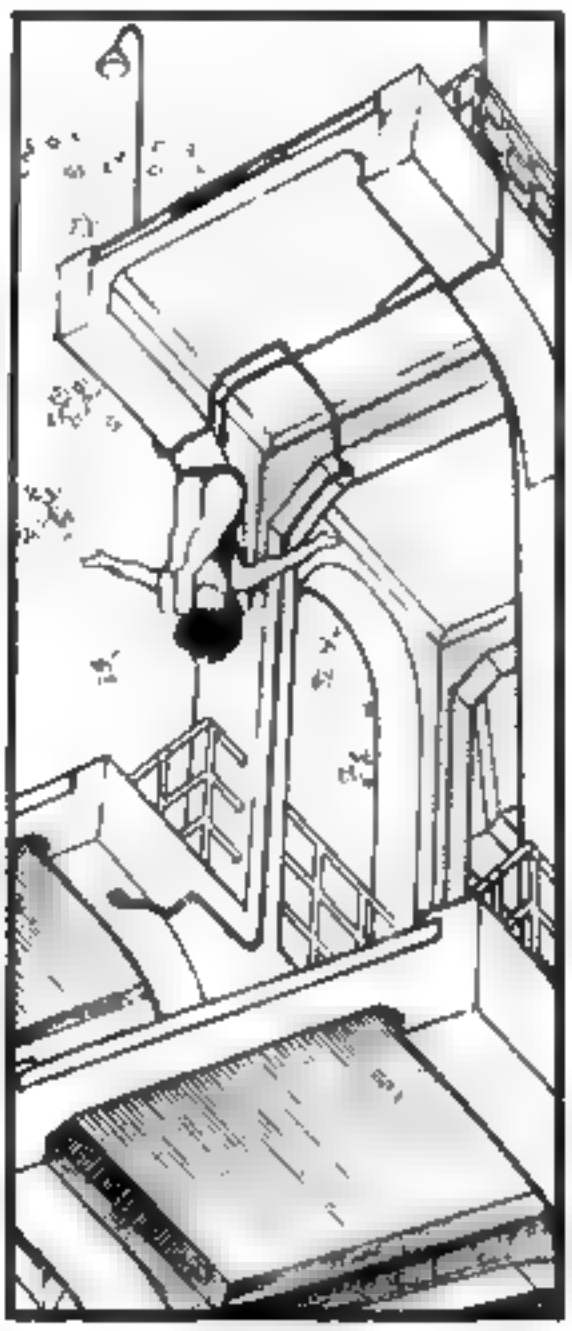
I BOUGHT A NEW SWIM-SUIT.
WANNA GO TO THE POOL?

I'LL GO WITH YOU...
CAN'T BE HELPED.

I'M NOT SAYING YOU HAVE TO.
PINCH-HIT FOR KAZUYA, WHO'S IN THE MIDDLE OF TRAINING CAMP, HUH.


TWEET
TWEET
CHIRP
CHIRP





AH...

MF!

YO!

LOOK, STAND UP!

DON'T BE TIRED JUST FROM WARMUPS!

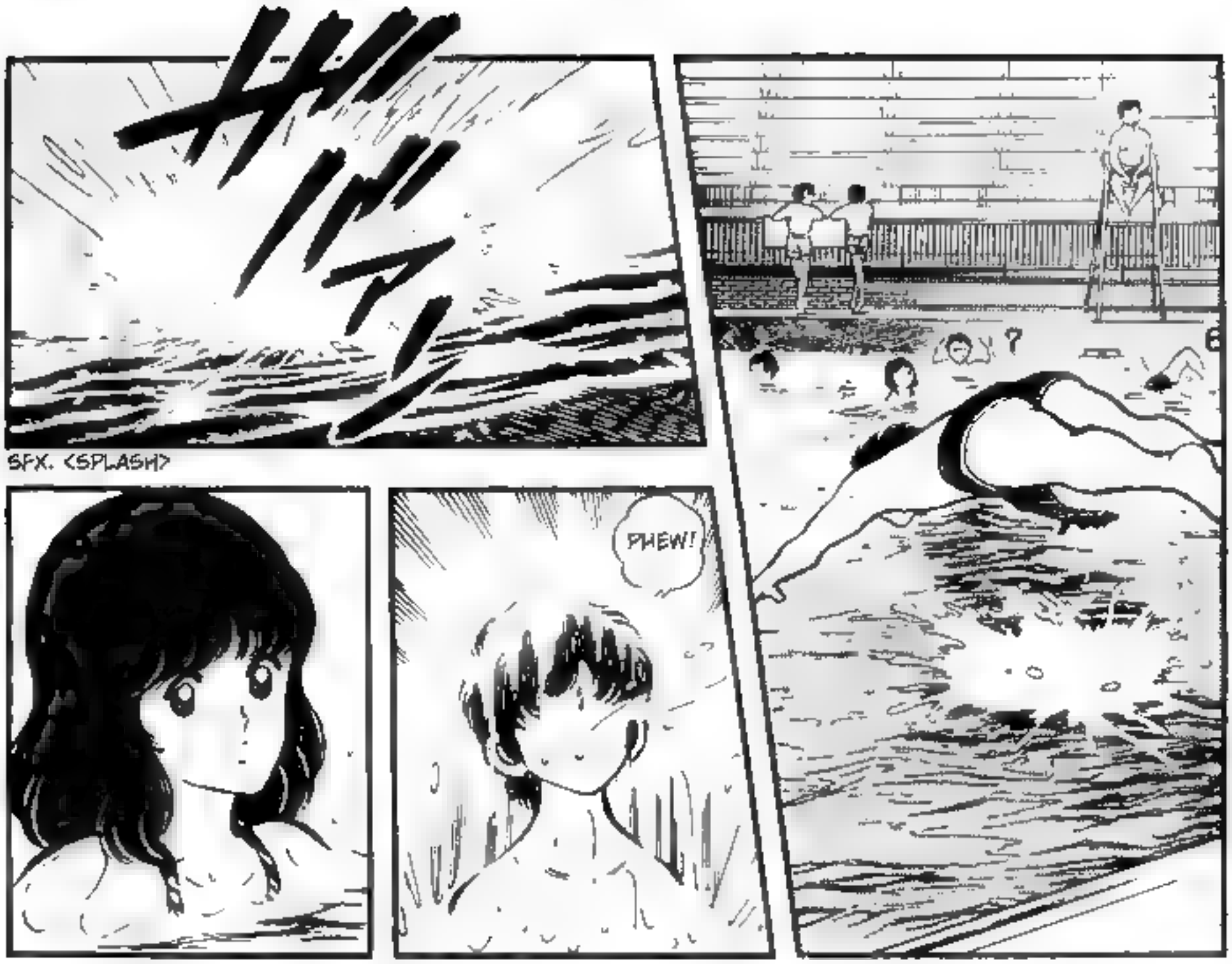
HEY YOU!

SURE ENOUGH ...

WELL, LET'S SWIM.

SIGH

I SHOULDN'T HAVE CLEARED MY THROAT...


SFX. <SPLASH>
PHEW!

ARF!

AHEM!

...WAS YOU, TATCHAN ...

NO MATTER WHAT WE DID, THE ONE WHO COULD ALWAYS DO IT FIRST...

OUT OF THE THREE OF US, YOU WERE THE FIRST WHO COULD SWIM, HM, TATCHAN.

YEAH.

SPLISH SPLISH

BUT YOU WERE QUICKLY SURPASSED BY KATCHAN...

IN EVERY-THING.

BLUB BLUB

ALL RIGHT. GO!

IF IT'S 25 METERS, I'M STILL FASTER!!

YEE-ARGH !!

SFX. <SPLASH SPLASH>

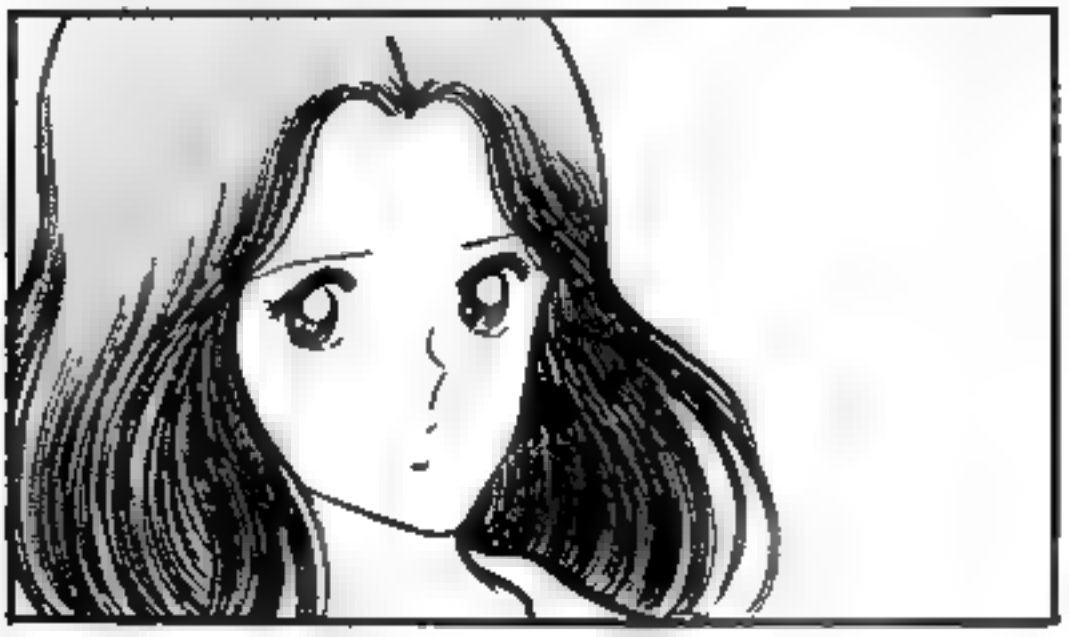
EVEN I HAVE A HARD TIME TELLING THEM APART.

WHEN HE PUTS ON A SERIOUS LOOK...

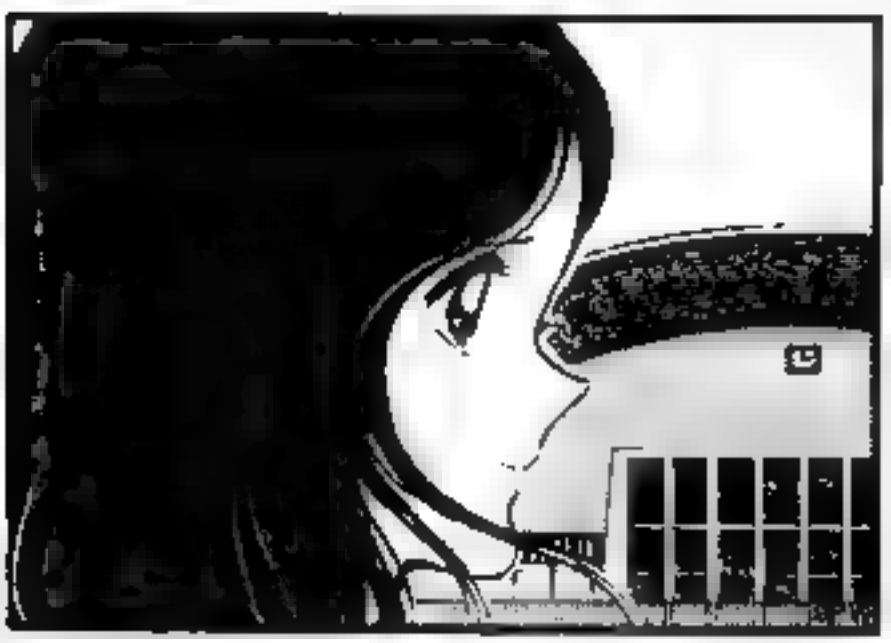
THEY SURE ARE TWINS...

SFX: <SPLISH!>

SFX: <SPLASH SPLASH>

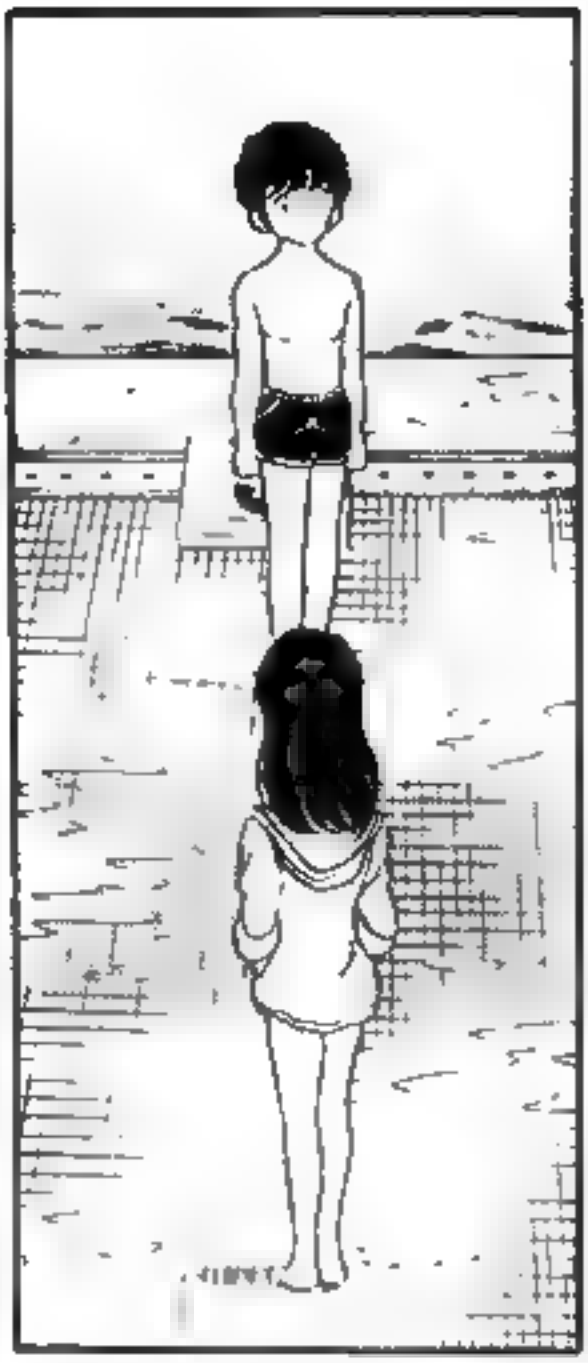


EH?
YOU'RE UESUGI-KUN, OF MEISEI JR HIGH, RIGHT?



UH-HUH.
10M

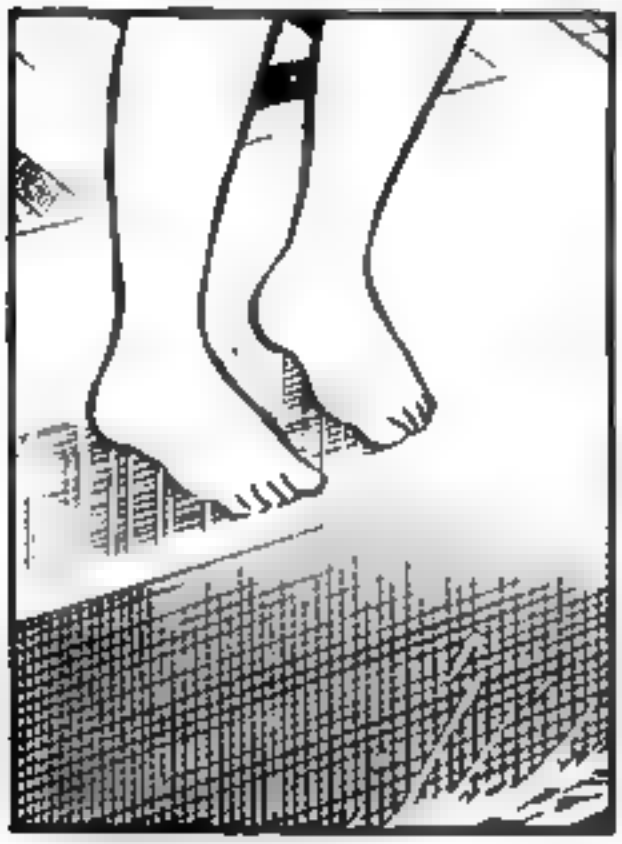
.....

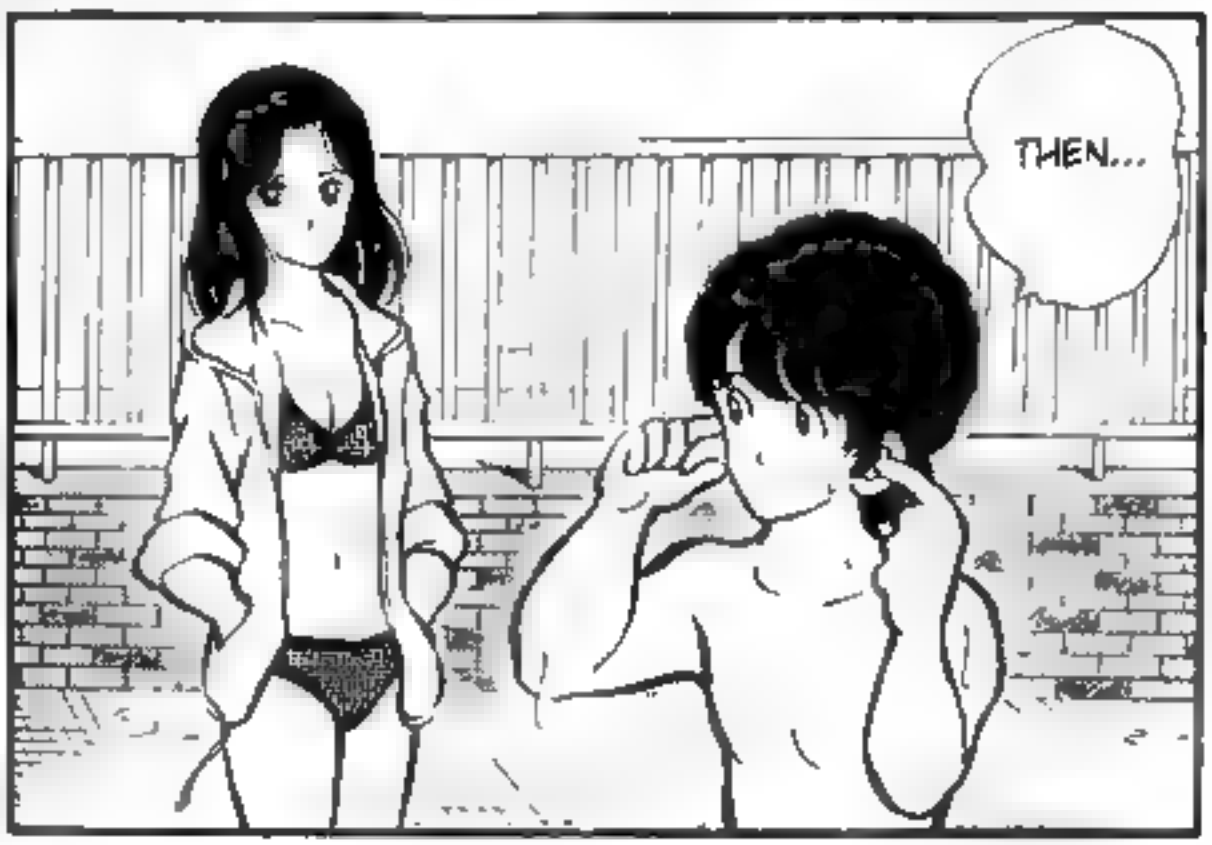


WHAT IS IT?

LET ME SEE YOU SWIM ONCE MORE.

25 METERS OKAY?




THEN...

SFX: <SPLA-A-ASH>

CLONK!

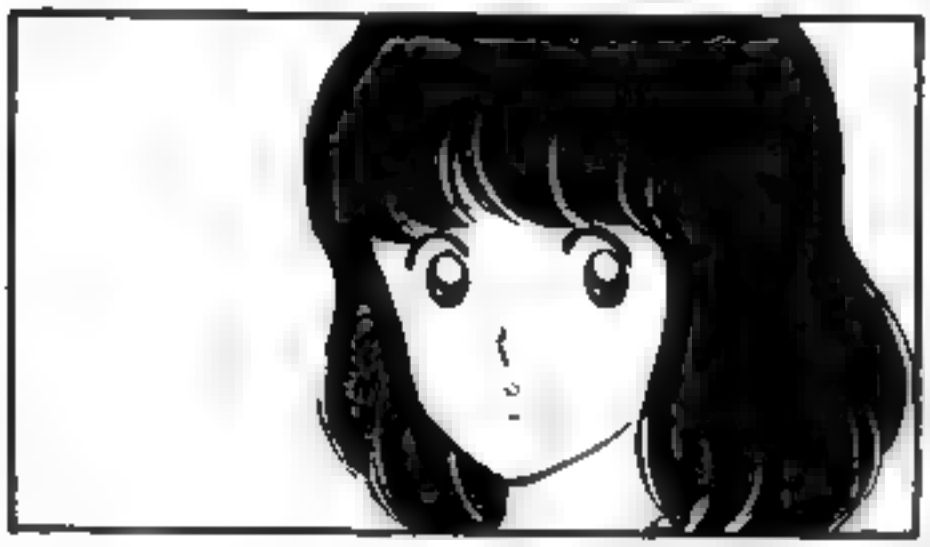
BOB

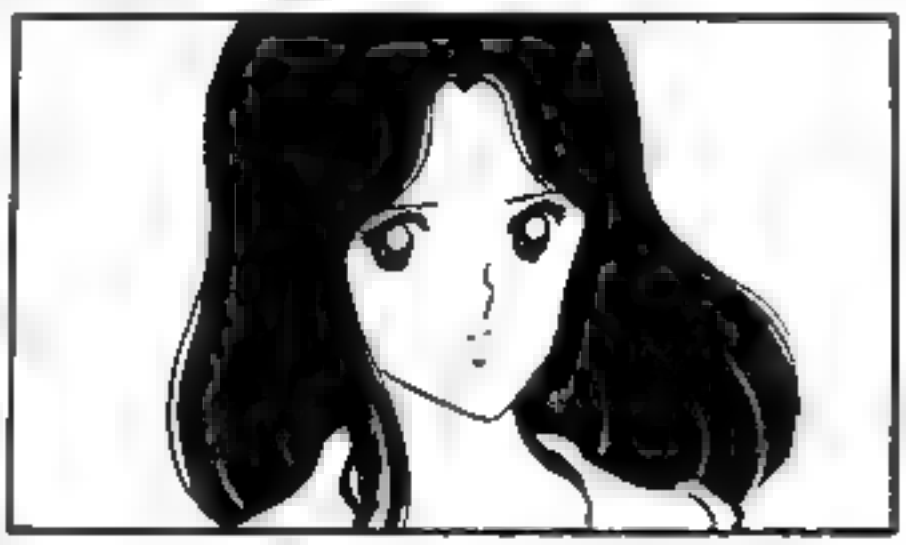
OW-OUCH!

TATCHAN! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

I'M ALL RIGHT.
HEY, LOOK THIS WAY!

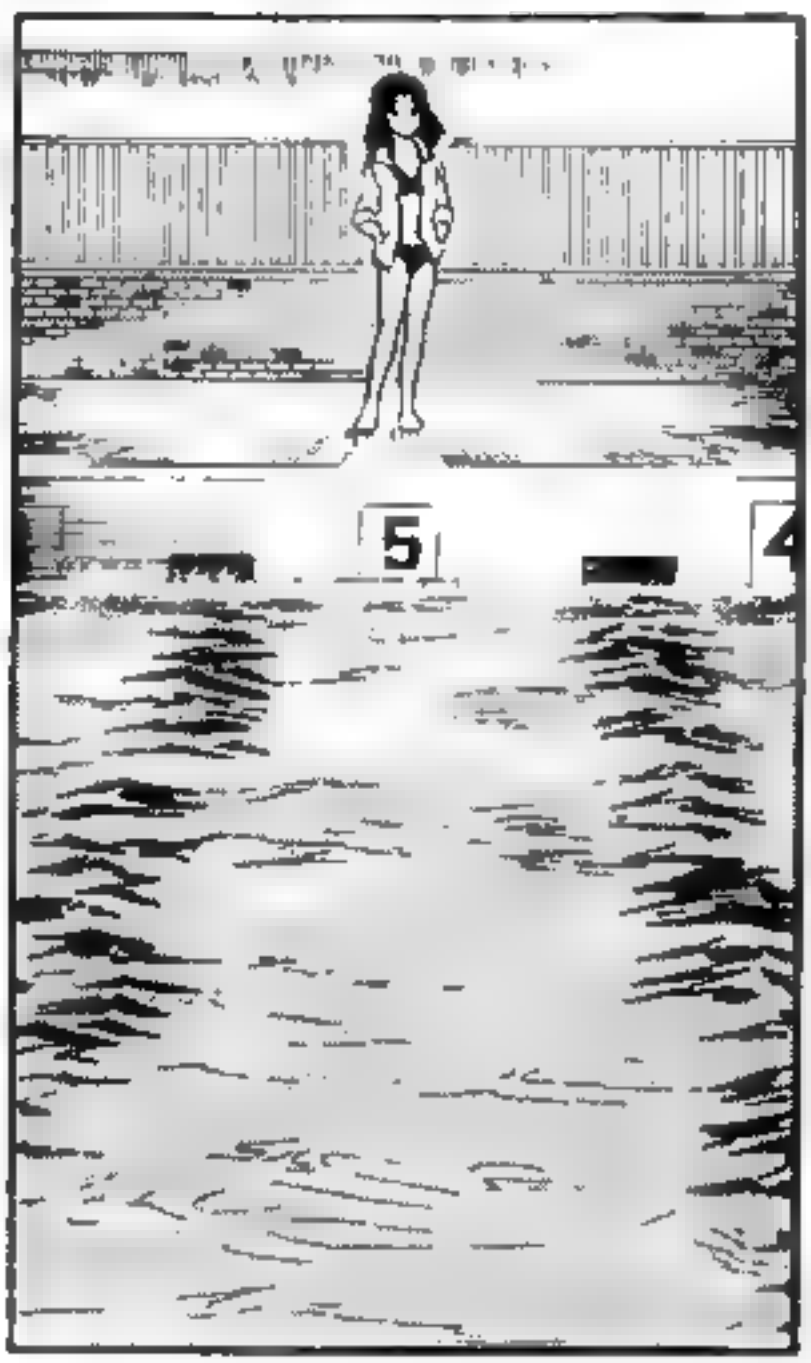
.....





DON'T YOU KNOW?

WHO'S THAT?


5

.....
THAT'S WHAT'S CALLED A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

OW

5

4

IS THAT GUY A CURVEBALL PITCHER!?

NEVERTHELESS, HE STILL MANAGED TO COLLIDE INTO YOU, WHO SWAM STRAIGHT...

THE SPRING IN HIS LEGS IS TRULY OUTSTANDING. UESUGI KAZUYA.

EVEN THOUGH HE CURVED THAT MUCH...

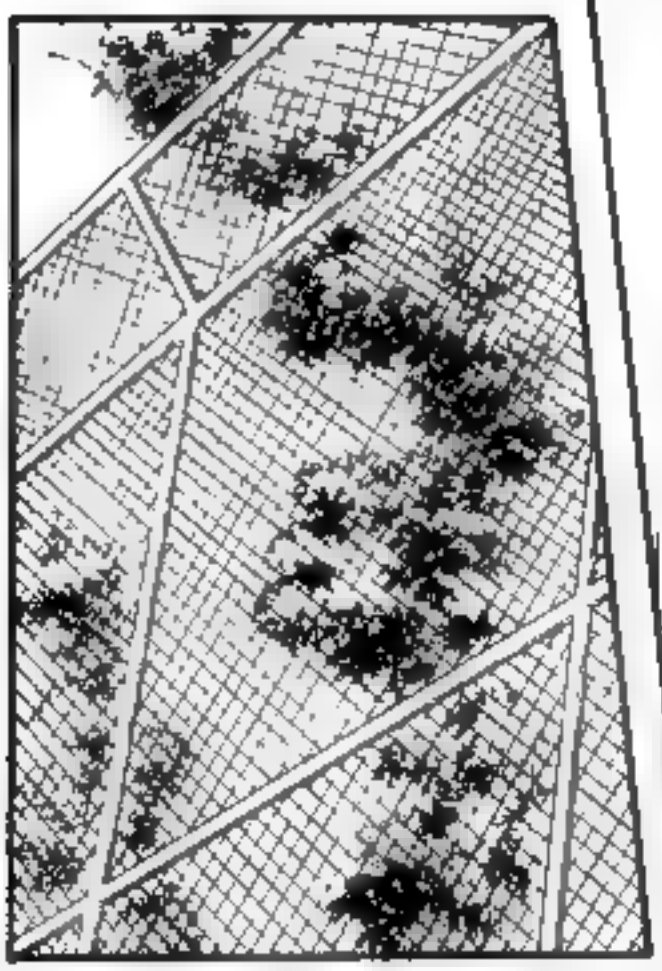
...KUROKI-KUN, 1ST-YEAR ACE OF MEISEI HIGH?

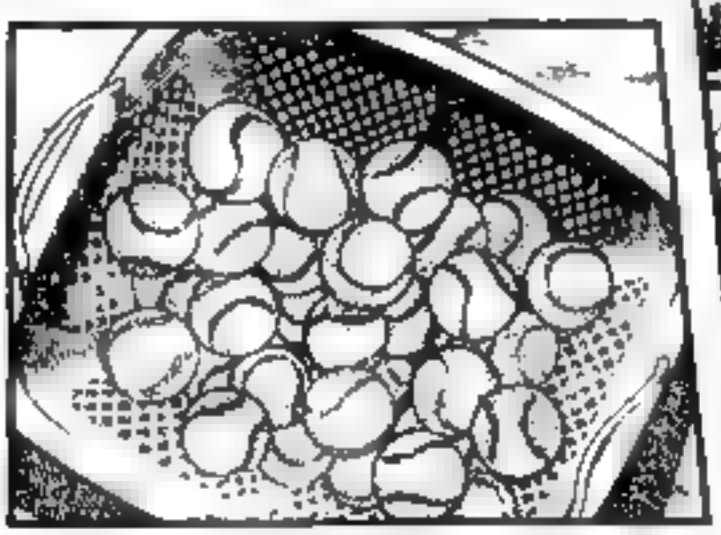
NEXT YEAR'S BASEBALL TEAM IS SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO, ISN'T IT...

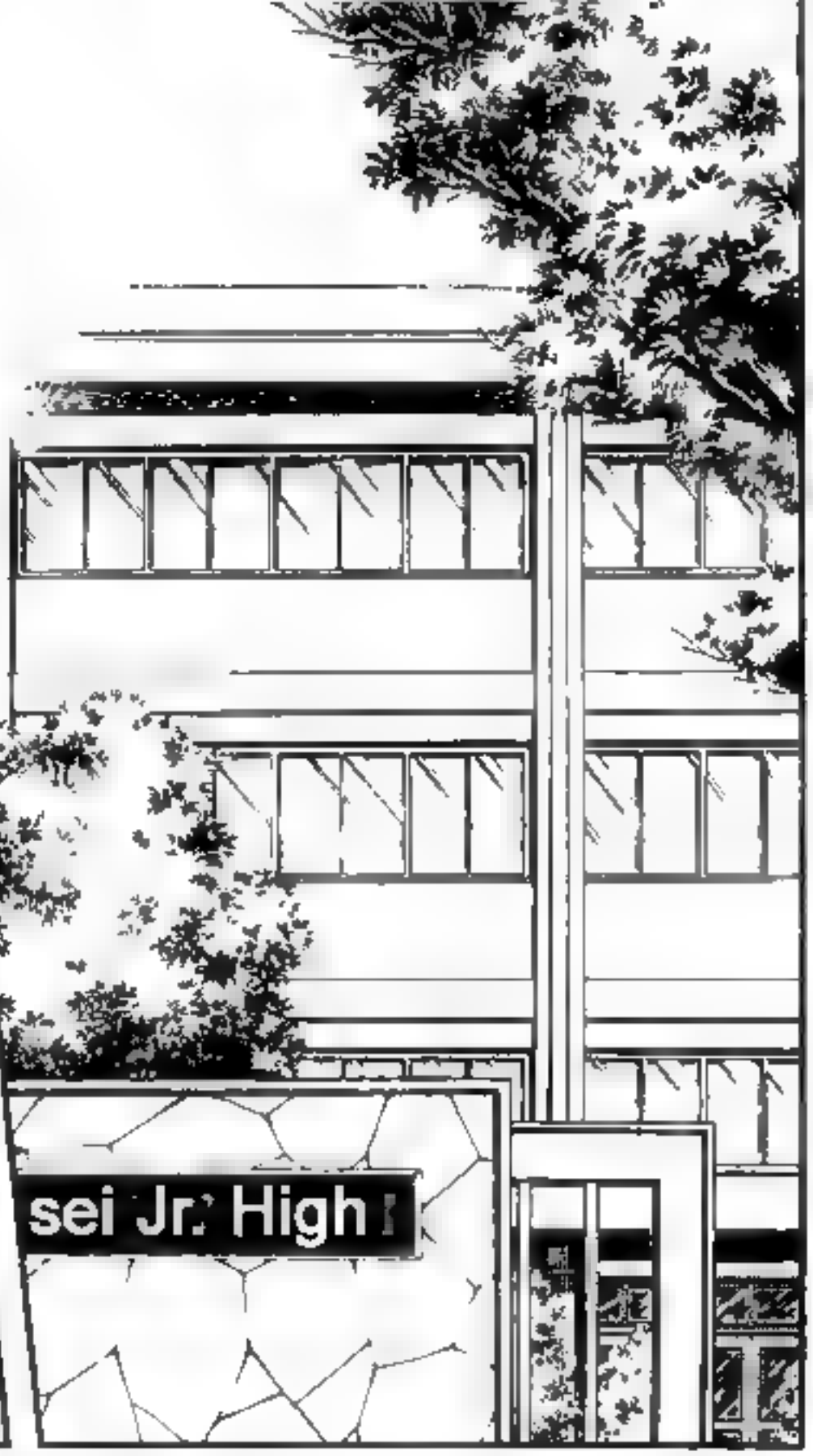
.....

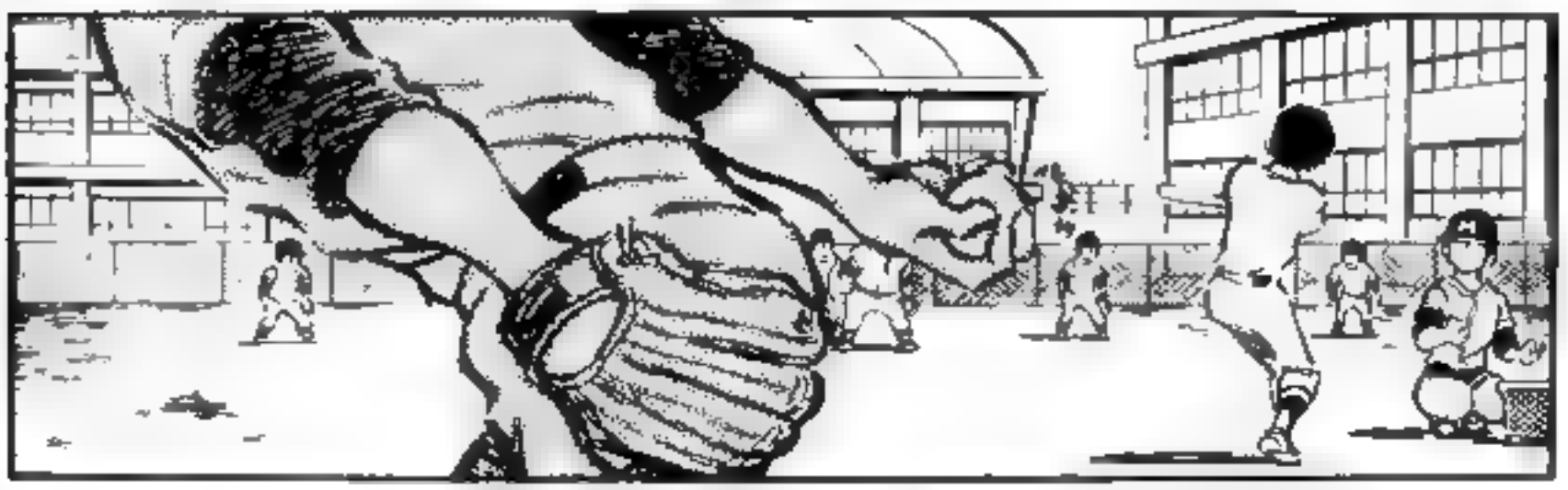
SPLISH

The Ace, Sure Enough, Is Kazuya









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SFX: <WHISH!>

I THINK THIS IS ENOUGH FOR NOW...

DON'T OVERDO IT TOO MUCH, KAZUYA.

SPLAT!

IT'S ALL RIGHT.

DON'T WORRY, KOUTA-ROU.

...IS MY HAND.

WHAT I'M WORRYING ABOUT...

YOU'RE STILL THROW-ING.

AH, I SEE.

SPLAT!

EE!

SWISH!

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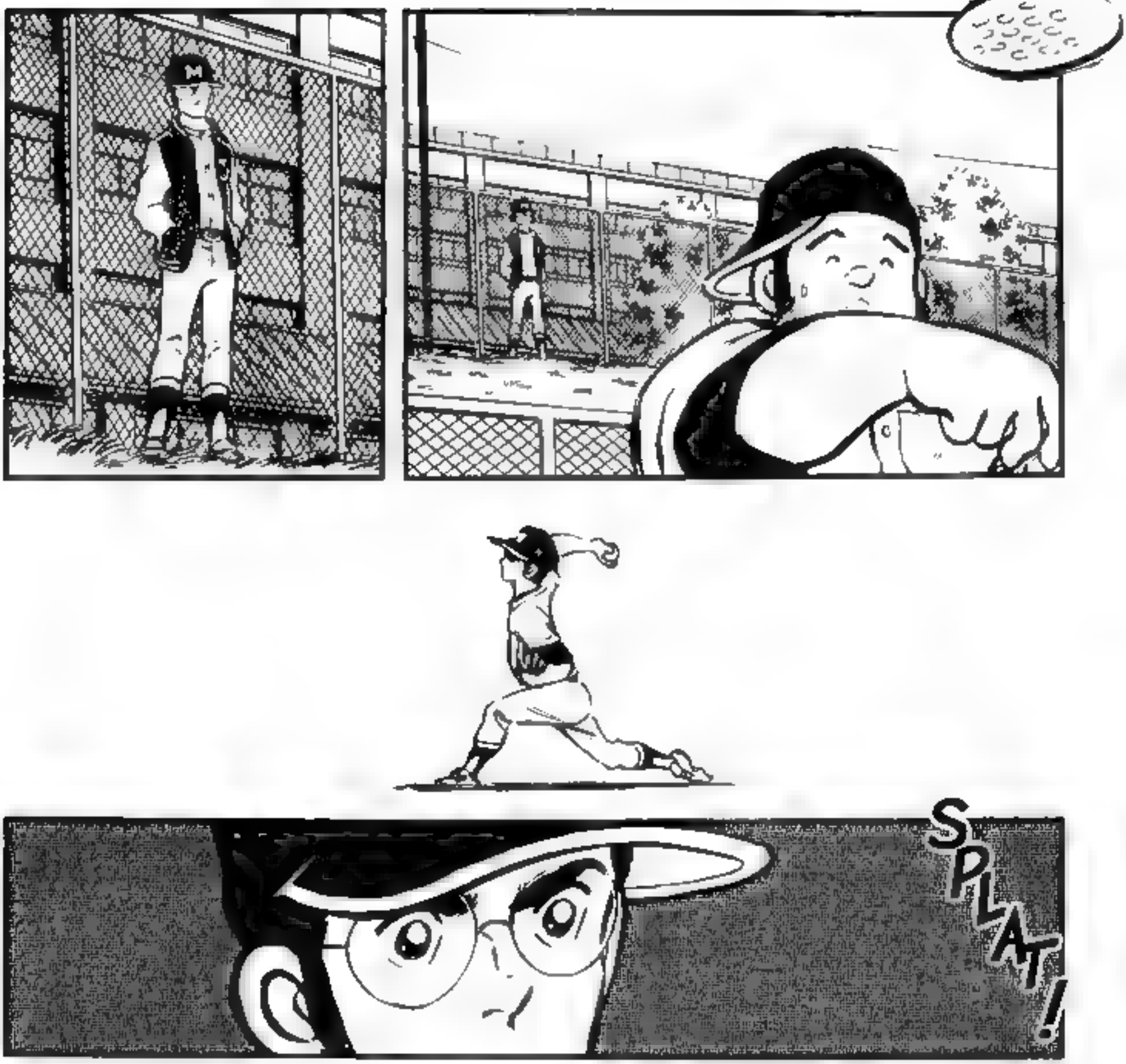
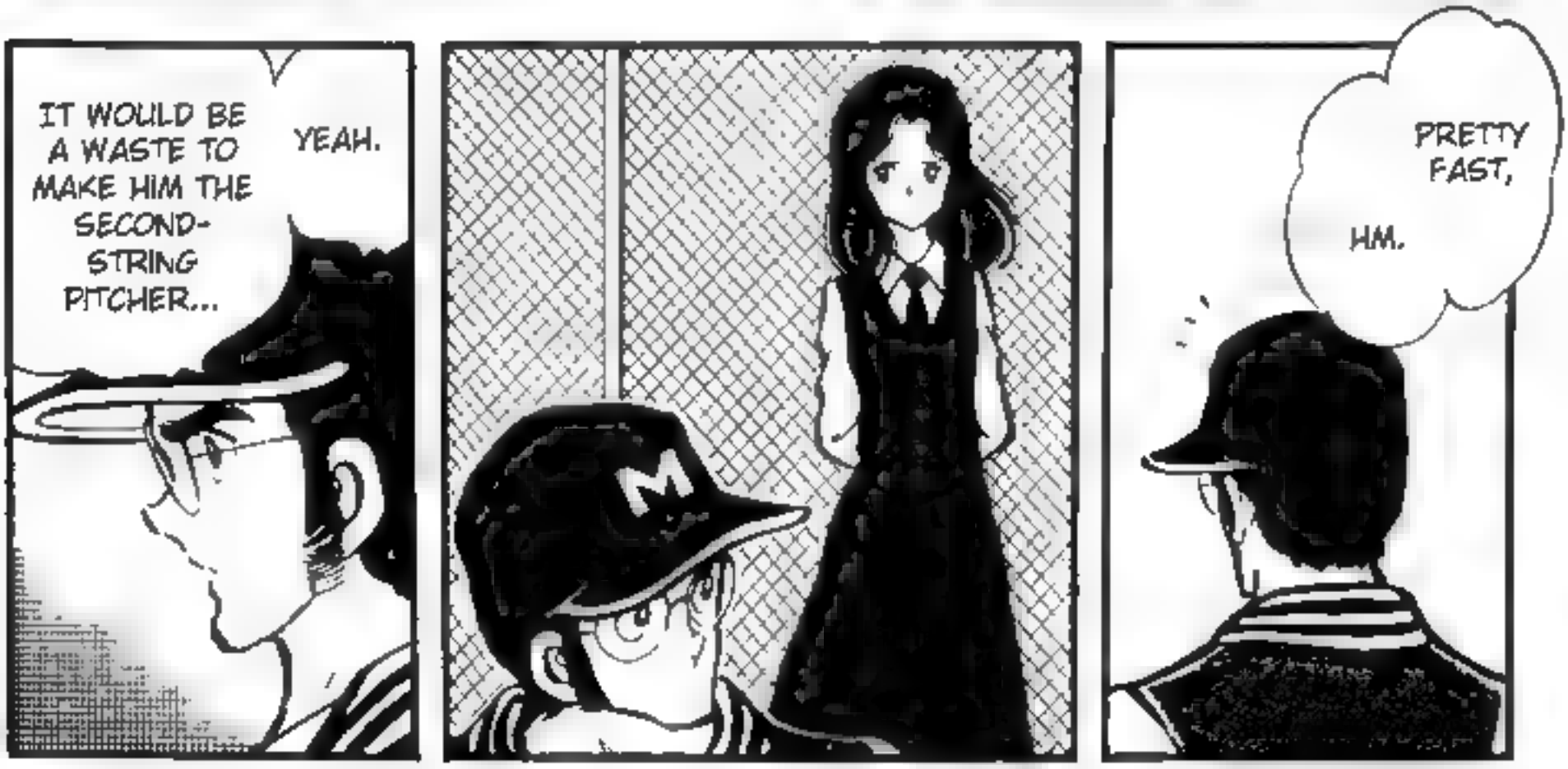

SPLAT!


IT WOULD BE A WASTE TO MAKE HIM THE SECOND-STRING PITCHER...
YEAH.
PRETTY FAST,
HM.

...I HEARD THE JUNIOR HIGH BASE-BALL TEAM WAS AT TRAINING CAMP.

WHEN HE WAS PLAYING AT THE POOL WITH THE GIRL...

YOU HAVE A LOT OF CON-FIDENCE IN YOURSELF, HM.

OW- OUCH.

AN IRRESPON-SIBLE GUY LIKE THAT...

BONK!

I'M JESUGI TATSUYA. PLEASE CON-TINUE YOUR KINDNESS TOWARDS ME!

AH...

TAT-CHAN?

HEYYY, TATCHAN!

THE OTHER DAY... HELLO.

OH, WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

THEN...

SPLAT!

UESUGI TATSUYA?

CLEANUP DUTY!

LIKE HIS OLDER BROTHER, HE'S VERY POPULAR WITH THE GIRLS.

AH... THAT'S MY K D BROTHER.

HEY, CLEANUP DUTY!

ACK

THAT'S A LIE... IT'S ONLY THE FACES THAT ARE ALIKE.

OKA-A-AY.

KATCHAN, GIVE IT YOUR BEST!

WHY WOULD YOU SUSPECT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? YOU WERE ONLY MISTAKEN FOR KATCHAN.

THAT WAS MY PRECIOUS CHANCE!

AHH-AH.

HMM.

CAN YOU THINK OF ANY OTHER REASON WHY A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE THAT WOULD TAKE AN INTEREST IN YOU?

.....

THEY'RE TWINS, AND IT'S SAID THAT THE OLDER BROTHER IS THE WEAK ONE WHOSE STRONG POINTS WERE ALL TAKEN BY THE KID BROTHER.

IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY,

OH!

COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE HEARD OF THAT.

I SEE ...

.....

CATCHING HOLD OF THE WEAK ONE... WHAT'S THIS ABOUT AN OUTSTANDING SPRING IN HIS LEGS?

OUR MANAGER'S EYES CAN'T BE RELIED UPON EITHER.

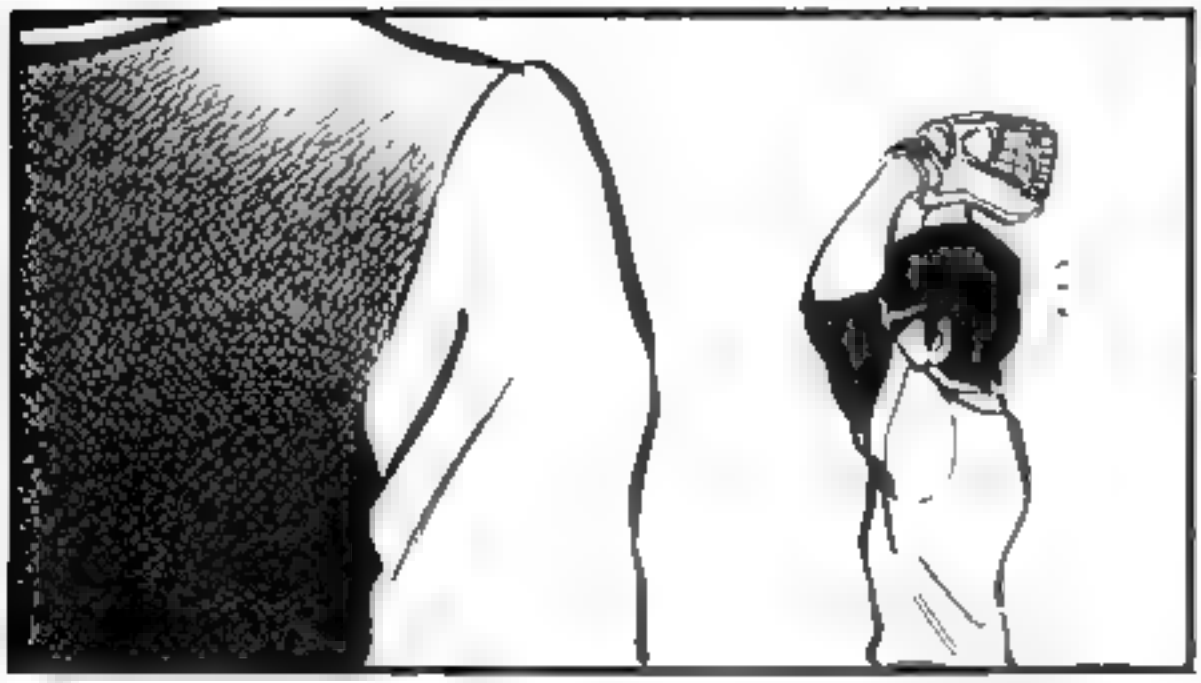
JEEZ!

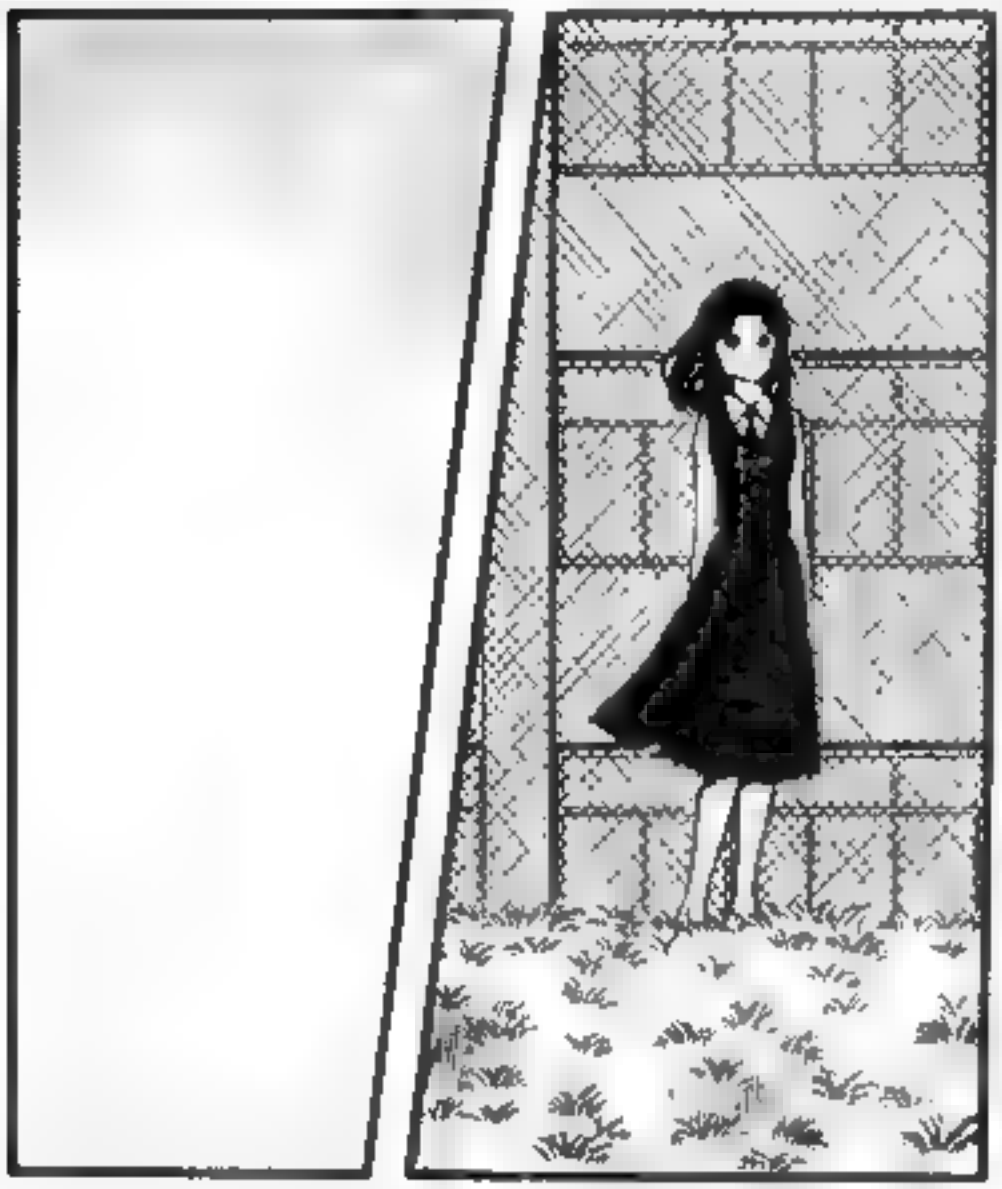
WELL, ANYWAY, IT'S NO USE JUST WATCHING FROM A SPOT LIKE THIS.

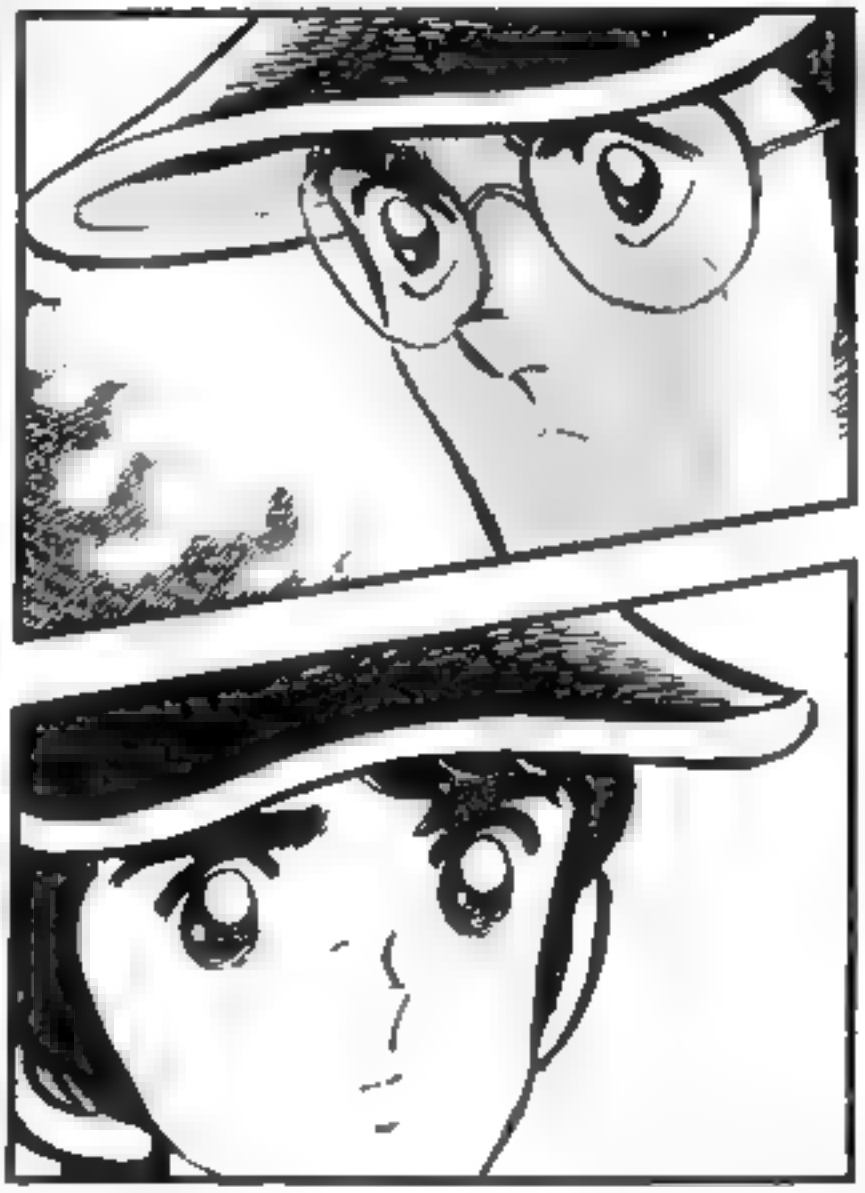
SPLAT!

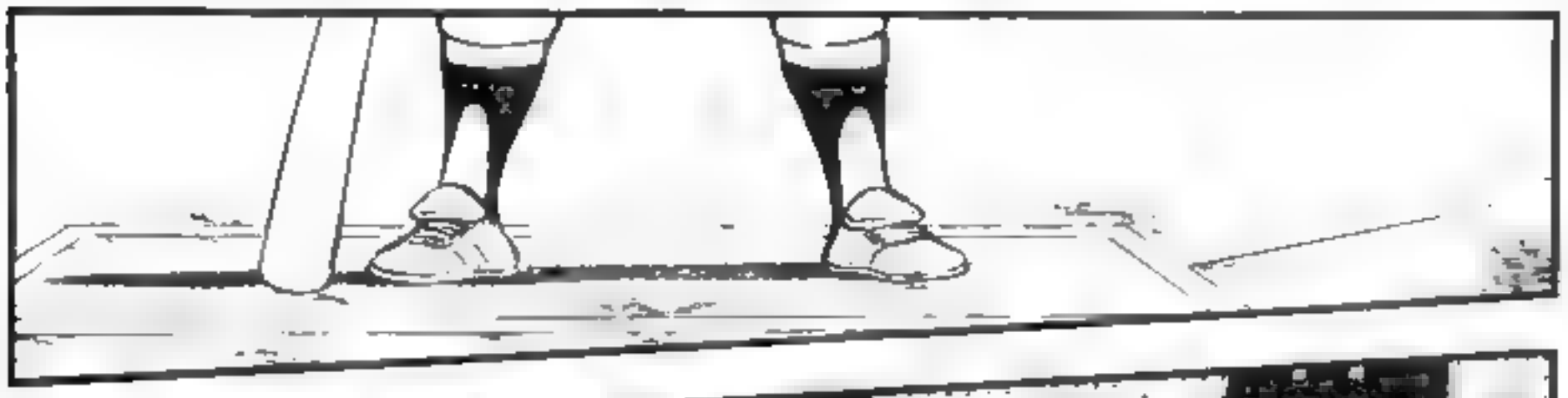
...HOW MUCH STUFF YOU HAVE...

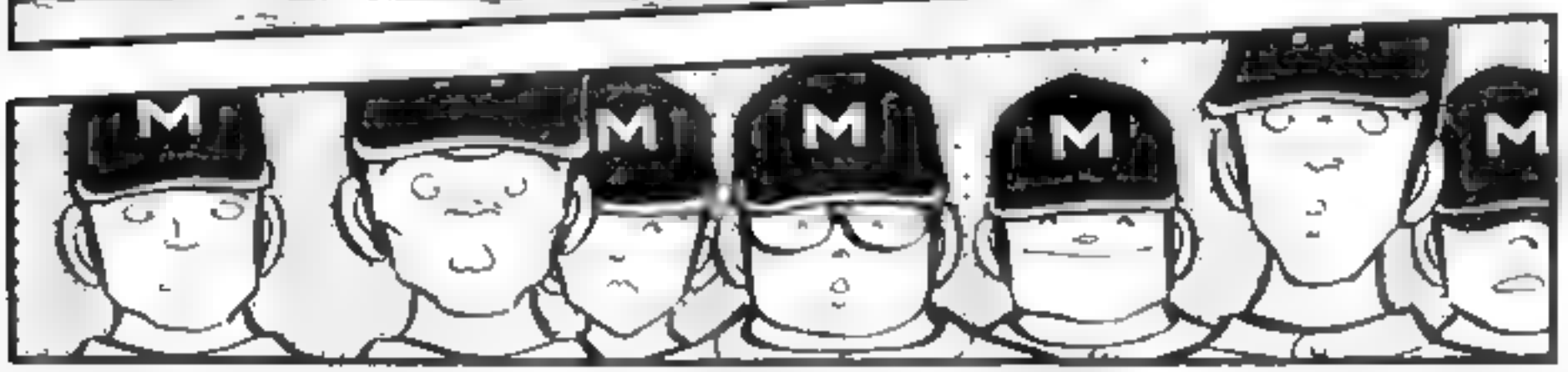
UESUGI KAZUYA, LET'S SEE...











KUROKI TAKESHI, THOUGH HE'S JUST A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT, IS THE ACE OF MEISEI HIGH AND BATS CLEANUP.

IT SEEMS THE HIGH SCHOOL COACH, WHO HAD KEPT HIS EYE ON HIM DURING HIS JUNIOR HIGH DAYS, PERSUADED HIM WITH ALL HIS MIGHT TO ENTER MEISEI.

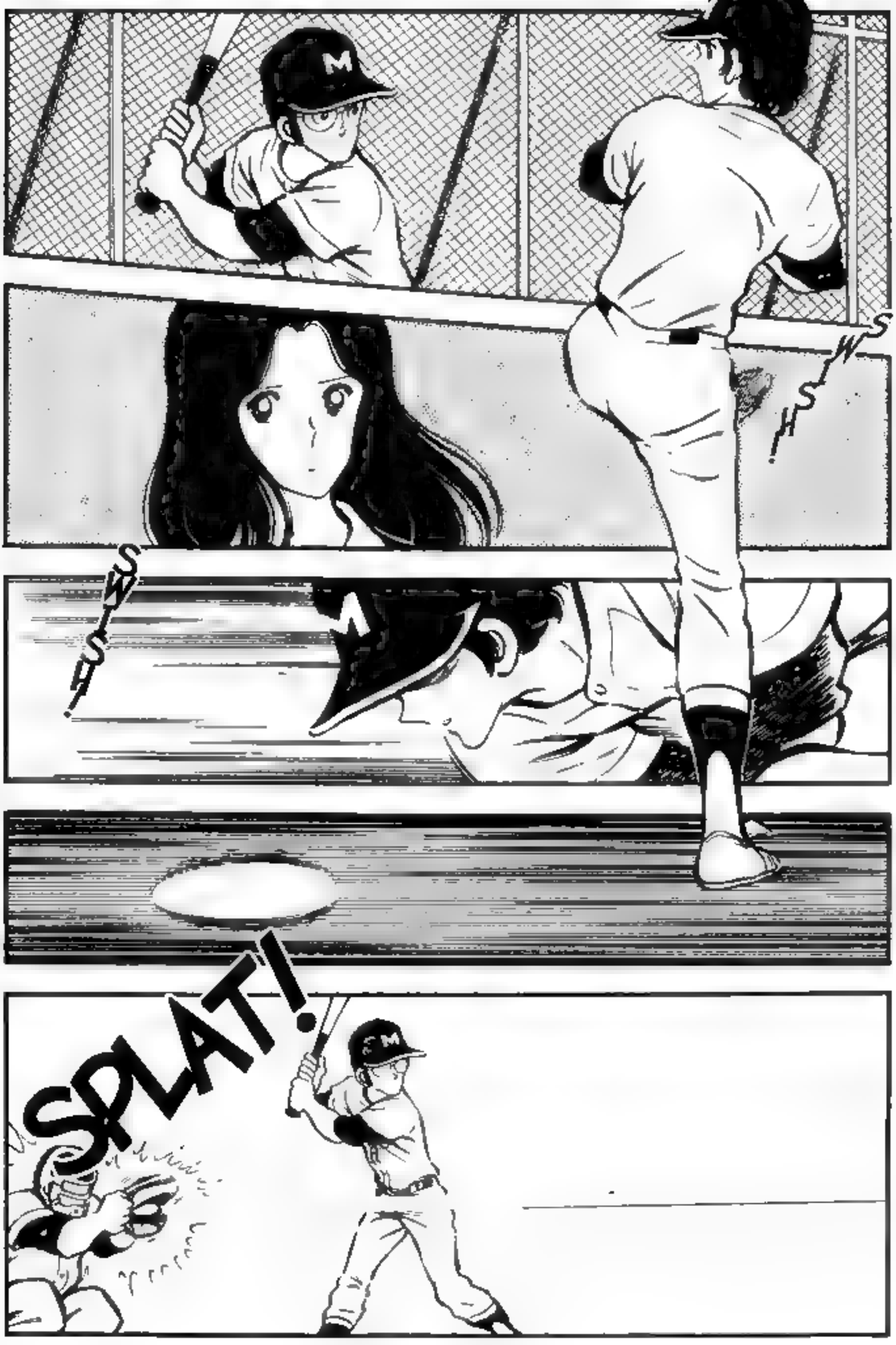
OTHERS ALSO SAY THAT HE ENTERED HERE BECAUSE HE WAS ATTRACTED TO THE COACH'S DAUGHTER...

AHH, THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN.

AH-EM.

WHEN-EVER YOU'RE READY!!

OKAY.


SWISH
SWISH
SPLAT!

SFX: <SPLAT>

CLENCH!

SWISH!!

WHAP

SFX <WHACK>

WHOA-
A-A.

CLATTER

.....

IT'S THE FIRST TIME A HOME RUN HAS BEEN HIT OFF ME.

YOU'RE EVERY-THING I EXPEC-TED ..

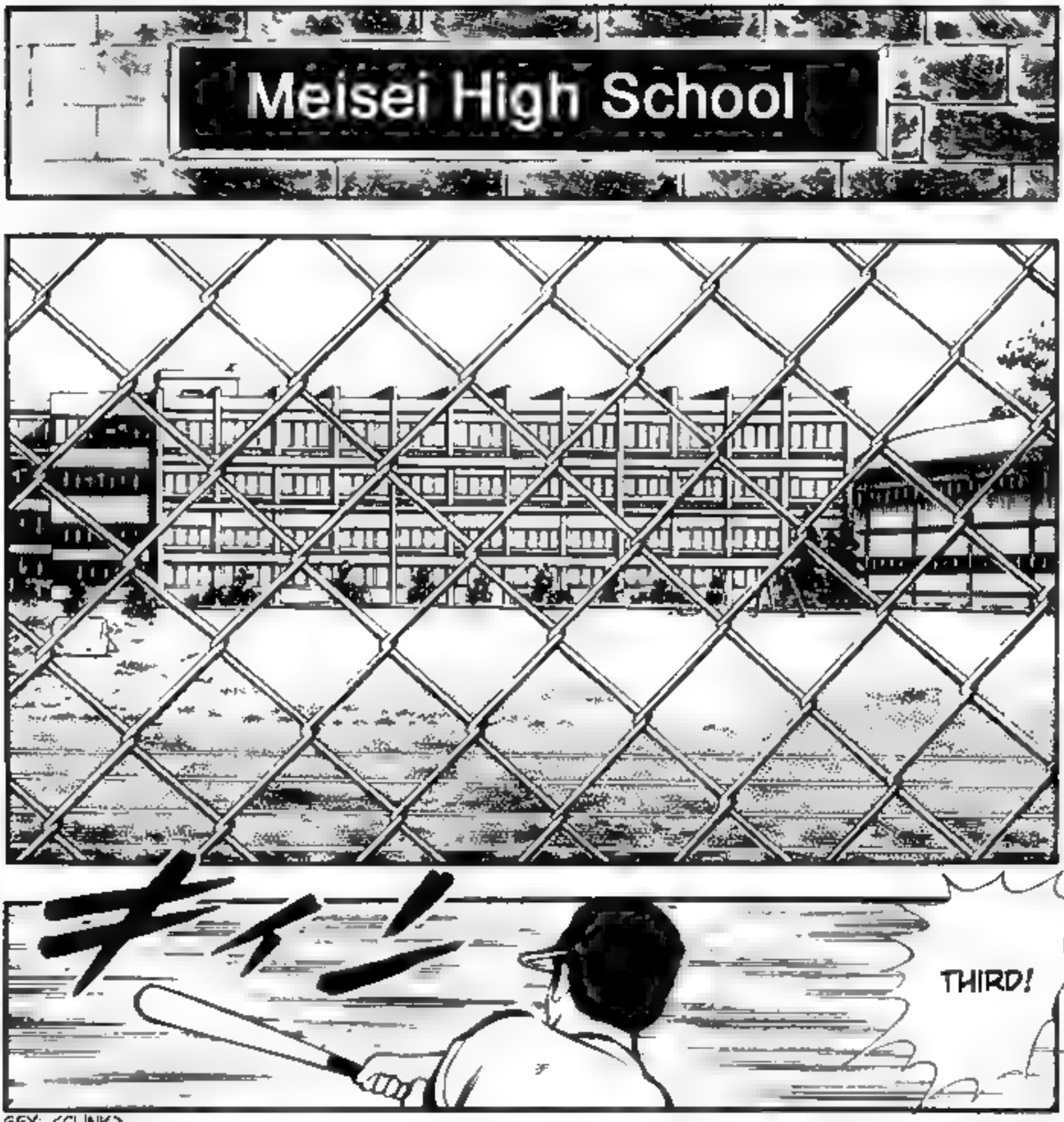
THAT WAS A WONDER-FUL HIT, KUROKI-KUN.

ANYONE COULD HAVE HIT IT...

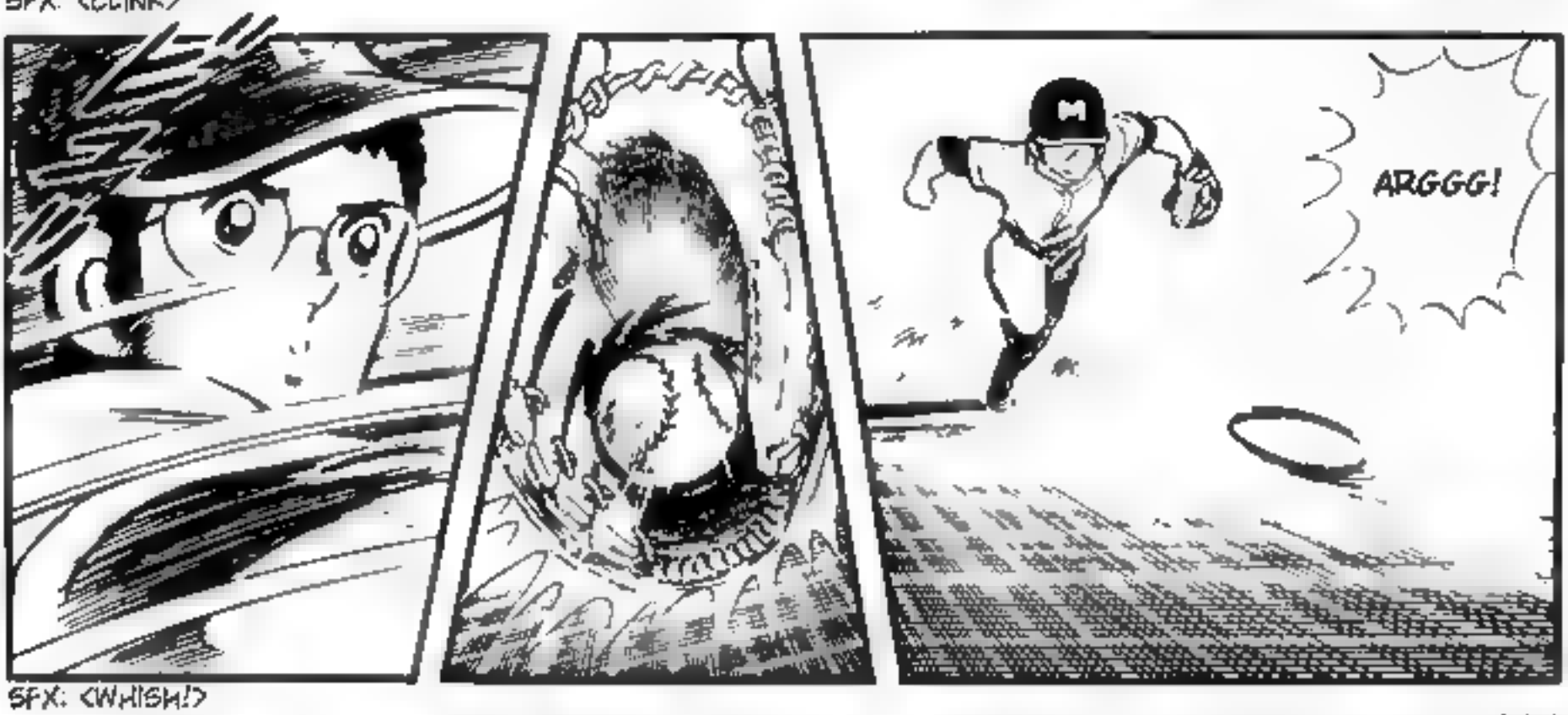
...THEN IT'S ALL THE MORE LIKELY.

ON TOP OF THAT, IF THERE'S NOT EVEN THE SLIGHTEST DEVIATION...

IF ALL 3 BALLS COME ALONG THE SAME COURSE...



SFX: <CLINK>



SFX: <WHISH!>

THEN, WHERE'S MY POSITION?

HE CAME AND ASKED TO BE CONVERTED, ON HIS OWN.

I DON'T KNOW EITHER.

HOW COME KUROKI'S AT THIRD!?

C-COACH!

OOO.

THERE'S NO COMPARISON BETWEEN YOU AND KUROKI, HM.

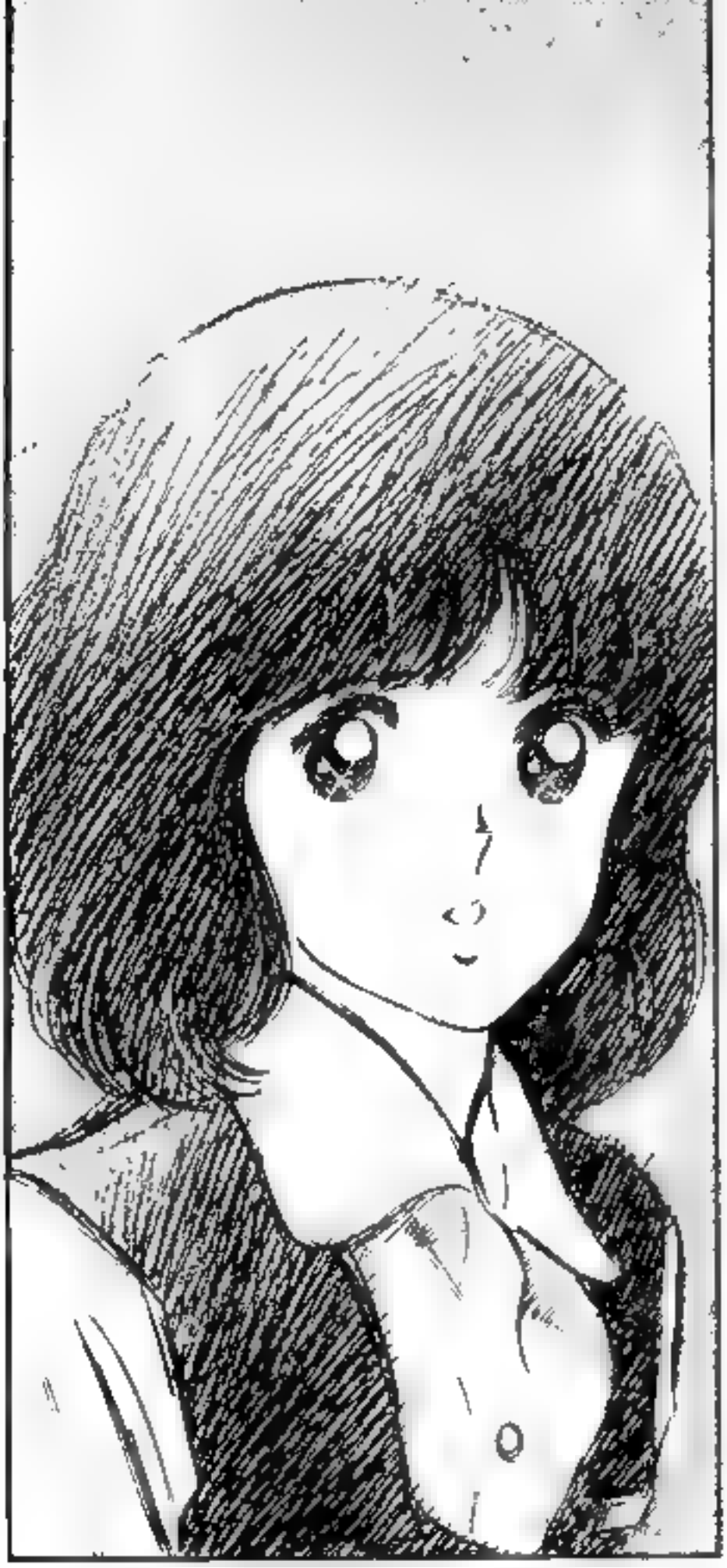
SFX: <WHAP!>

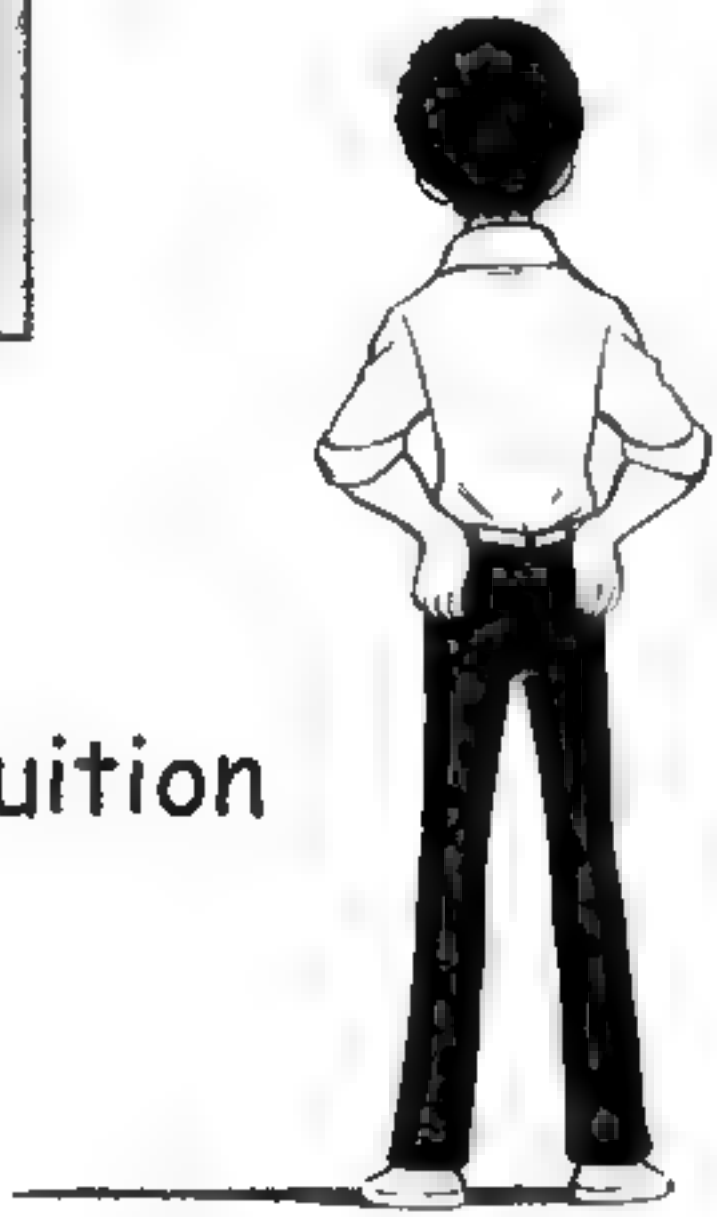
HUH FF.

SFX. <SWISH!>

UESUGI KAZUYA.

I'M MAKING ROOM AND WAITING FOR YOU!





A Woman's Intuition

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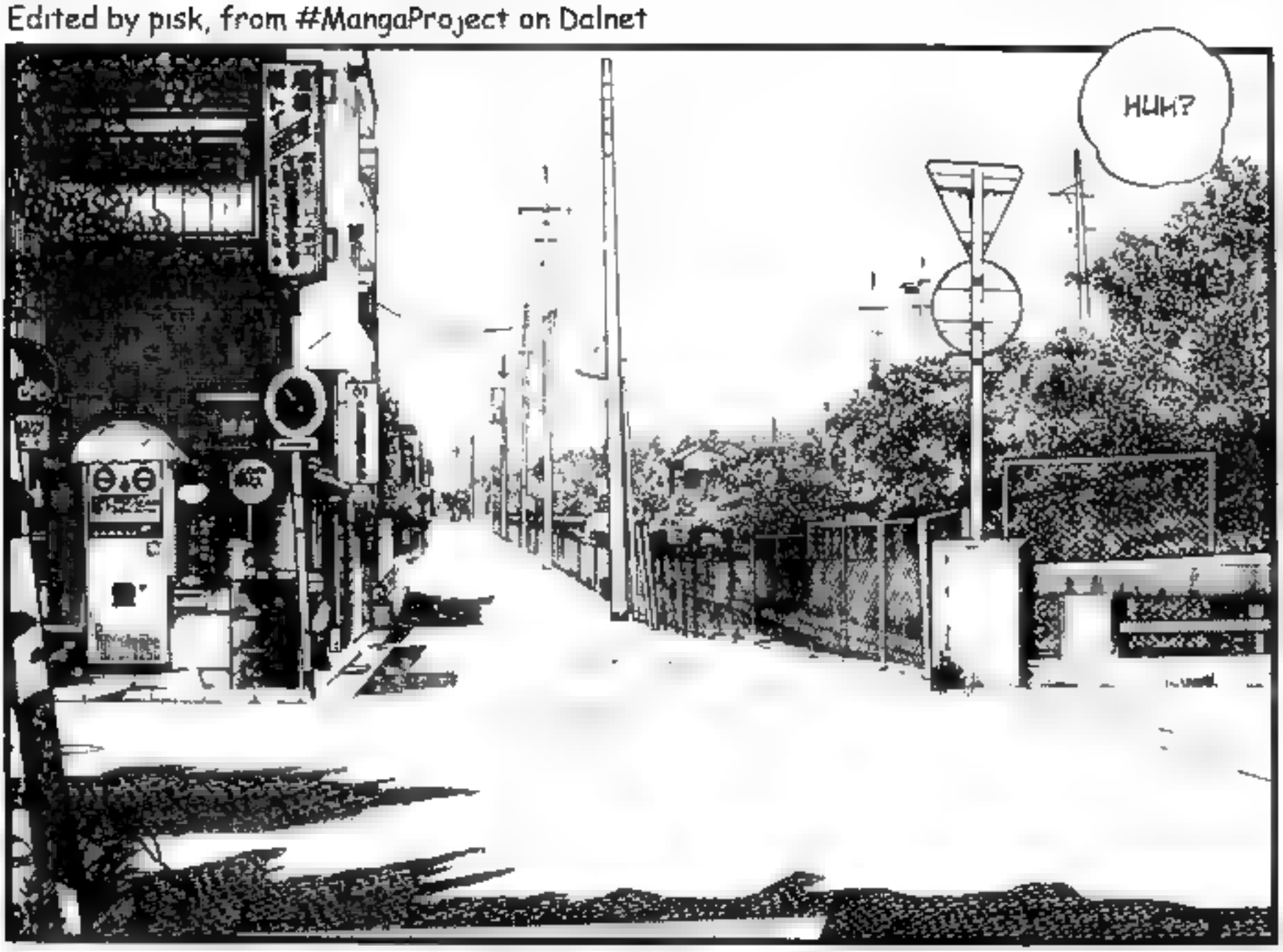

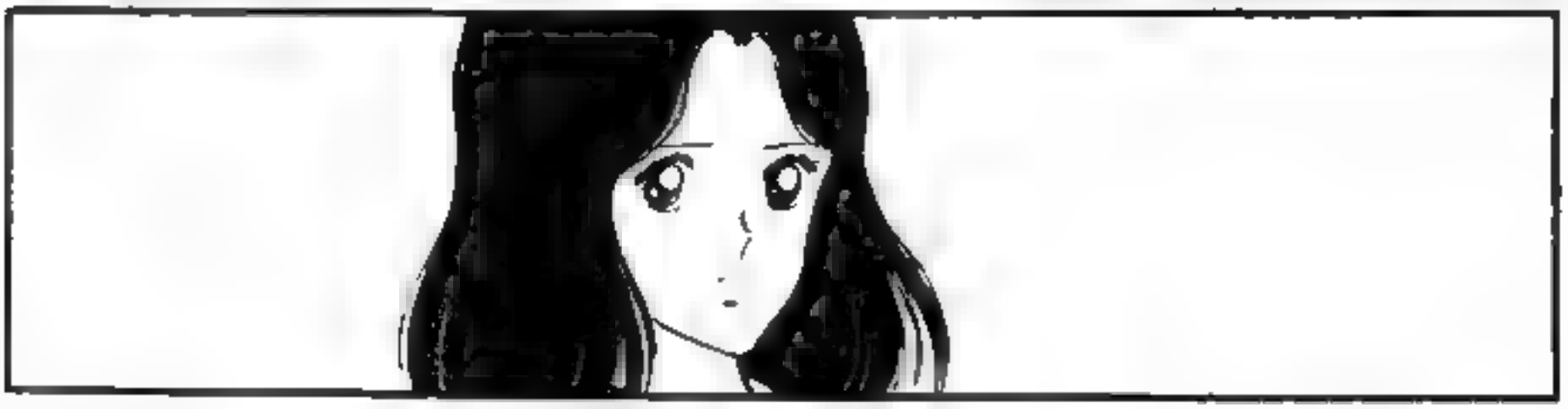

AH! I'M SORRY.

UMM... WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

WHAT'S YOUR PHONE NUMBER?

I'M THE MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM.

NISHIO SACHIKO, 1ST-YEAR HIGH.

HOW DO YOU DO.

WHAT SORT OF BASE-BALL EXPERIENCE HAVE YOU HAD UP TILL NOW?

IT'S A WOMAN'S INTUITION.

HEH HEH . . .

I WAS STRUCK BY YOU.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR FAMILY?

MAYBE AS FAR AS PLAYING CATCH...

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THAT YOU COULD DETECT THAT AT FIRST SIGHT...

HOW SHARP!!

INDEED!

UR-KK

NO, YOUR RAW TALENTS MAY BE BEYOND HIS...

YOU'RE ON A PAR WITH KAZUYA-KUN...

WHAT ARE YOUR BUST, WAIST AND HIP SIZES?

LET'S AIM FOR KOUSHIEN TOGETHER.

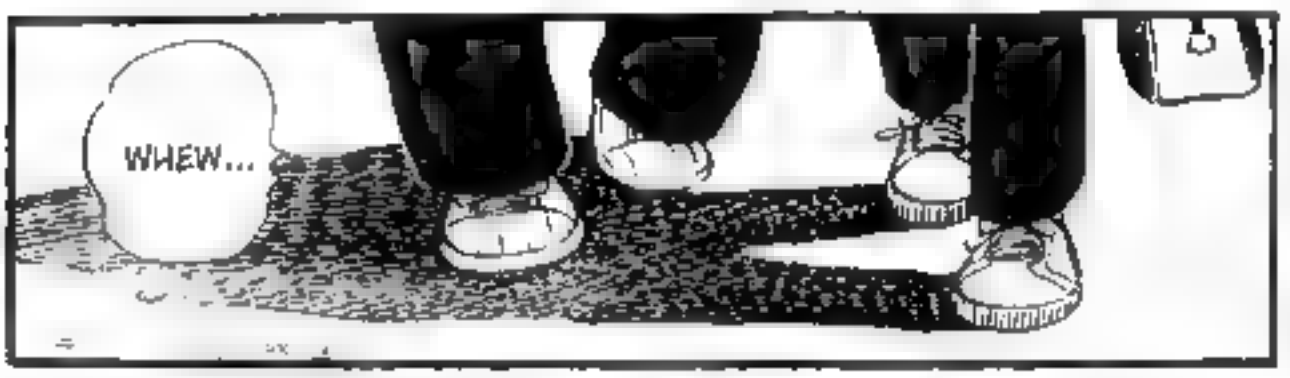
BASEBALL TEAM, HUH...

HEH HEH.

NEXT YEAR, WHEN YOU COME TO HIGH SCHOOL, PLEASE JOIN THE BASEBALL TEAM WITH YOUR BROTHER.

SAY ...

BEFORE THAT, WHY DON'T WE AIM FOR A TEAHOUSE NEARBY?


WHEW...

MINAMI-CHAN!
OH?

WHAT A LONG DAY.

I WAS THINKING OF MAKING YOU GO SHOPPING WITH ME FOR DINNER...

UH-HUH.
YOU WAITED FOR ME?

MY PARENTS WENT OFF TRAVELING TOGETHER AGAIN...

OH, THAT'S RIGHT.

EH?

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO EAT, KATCHAN?

OH NO.

SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE...

AS USUAL, IN THE MEANTIME LEAVING THE UESUGI FAMILY IN MY HANDS...

THAT'S RIGHT ...

I SEEM TO BE IN THE WAY...

I'LL BE GOING ON AHEAD...

IT'S KOUTA-ROU...

GOODBYE, KOTAROU -KUN.

OKAY.

DON'T BE LATE.

TOMOR-ROW'S GAME STARTS AT 11...

BEEP

SUPER MARKE

JEEZ, WHAT IRRESPONSI-BLE PARENTS THEY ARE...

THEY NEGLECT THEIR CHILDREN AND ARE ALWAYS ACTING LOVEY-DOVEY.

IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY...

BECAUSE EVEN NOW HE'S VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH MY LATE MOTHER...

COME TO THINK OF IT, MINAMI, DOESN'T YOUR FATHER HAVE ANY INTEREST IN REMARRY-ING?

IT'S NOTHING LIKE THAT.

MY FATHER'S ALWAYS KINDA ENVIOUS.

A MARRIED COUPLE, HUH...

HMM?

CAN YOU GUESS?

I WONDER WHAT SORT OF BRIDE YOU'LL TURN OUT TO BE, MINAMI?

GEH!

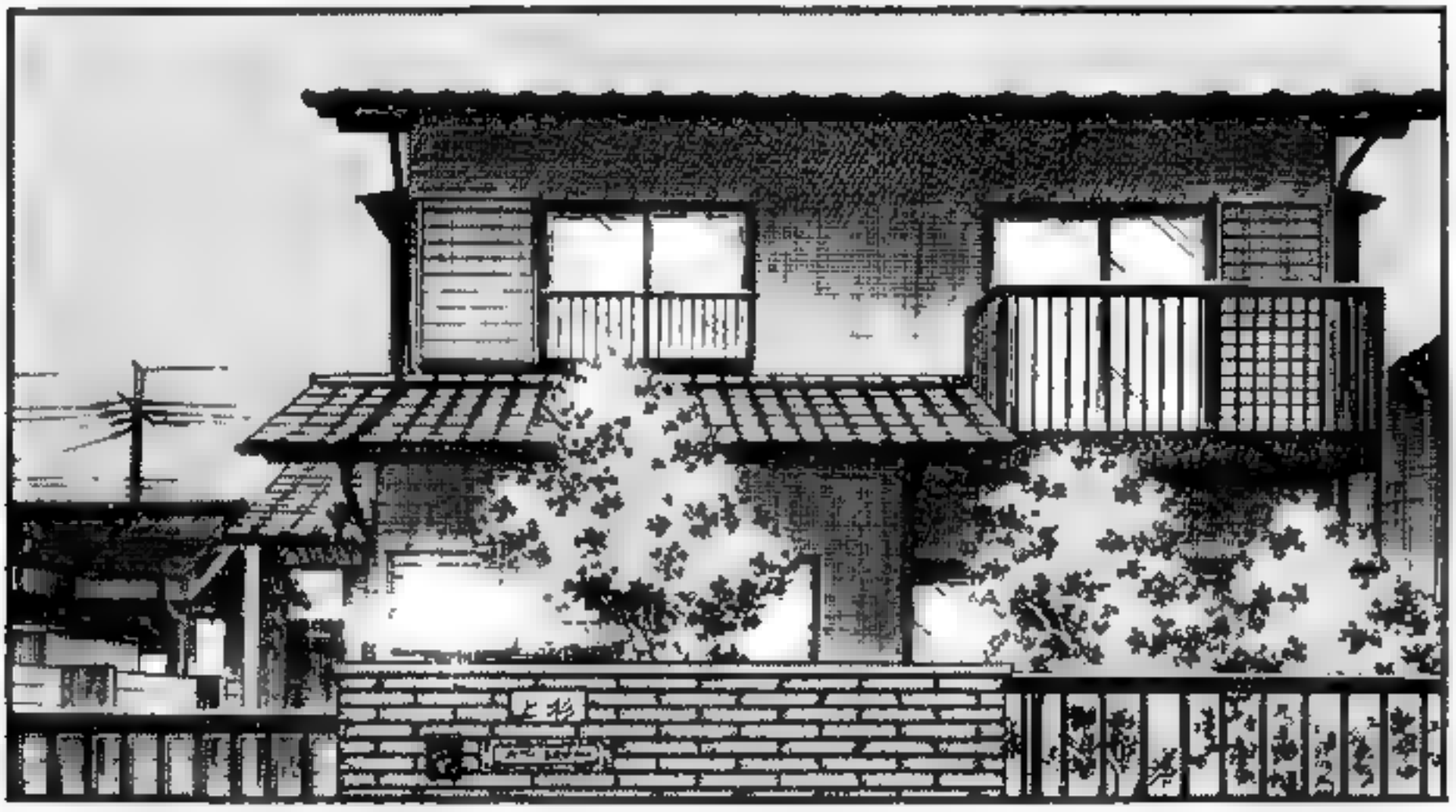
JUST THINK OF YOUR IDEAL BRIDE.

IT'S SIMPLE, RIGHT?

.....

JUST JOKING.

UESUGI



HEY, YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY CLUB ACTIVITIES AND YET YOU'RE LATE!!

CLACK

HUH?

DID YOU SAY THAT A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN LIKE THAT WOULDN'T TAKE ANY INTEREST IN ME?
HMM.

HURRY AND FINISH YOUR DINNER!

WHAT ARE YOU MUTTERING ABOUT?

YOU JERK

YOU SAY I WAS MISTAKEN FOR KAZUYA?

IN UESUGI TATSUYA, RIGHT HERE.

SHE'S TAKEN AN INTEREST IN ME.

THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, Y'KNOW...

.....

A HIDDEN TALENT OF MINE THAT MAY BE GREATER THAN KAZUYA'S...

SHE SAID SHE SAW RIGHT THROUGH ME WITH A WOMAN'S INTUITION...

HOW TOUGH FOR YOU...

MY GOOD POINTS...

YOU PROBABLY STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THEM, HUH...

WHEN YOU BECOME A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, YOUR ABILITY TO READ PEOPLE GROWS...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

HERE YOU GO.

SO THEY CAN'T MEEKLY ADMIT THEIR MISTAKES... NOT EASILY...

BEAUTIFUL WOMEN HAVE GREAT PRIDE,

MM?

SO I CAN WASH YOURS WITH MINE.

THAT'S OKAY. I'M DOING SOME AT MY PLACE NOW...

AH,

MOM DIDN'T EVEN DO THE WASH, AND WENT OFF...

OHH!?

NO, I MEAN...

AH...

YOU CAN TURN OUT TO BE A FINE BRIDE!!

EXCEL-LENT!

UH-HUH.

THE HOTCH-POTCH DISH YOU MAKE IS ALSO THE MOST DELICIOUS, MINAMI.

THANK YOU...

IT'S TRUE!

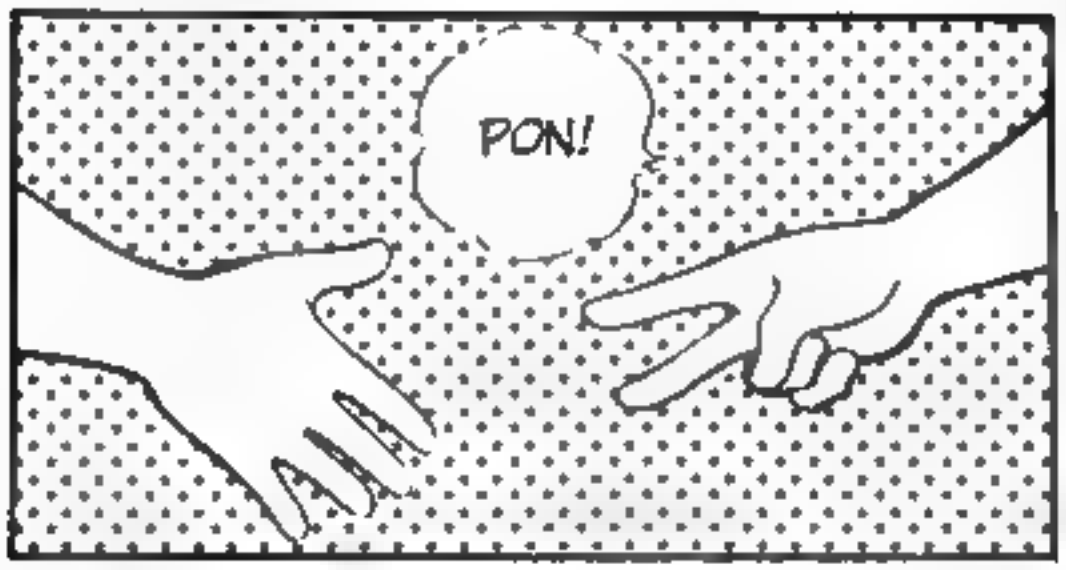
.....

HU-HHH!

SOAKING WET IN THE WASHING MACHINE...

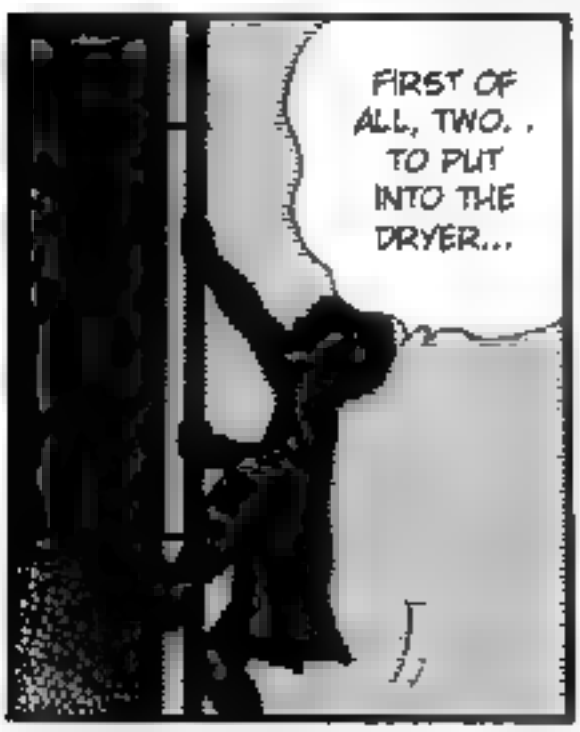
WHERE ARE THE ONES WE TOOK OFF JUST NOW...?

THAT MINAMI EVEN TOOK OUR CHANGE OF CLOTHES!!

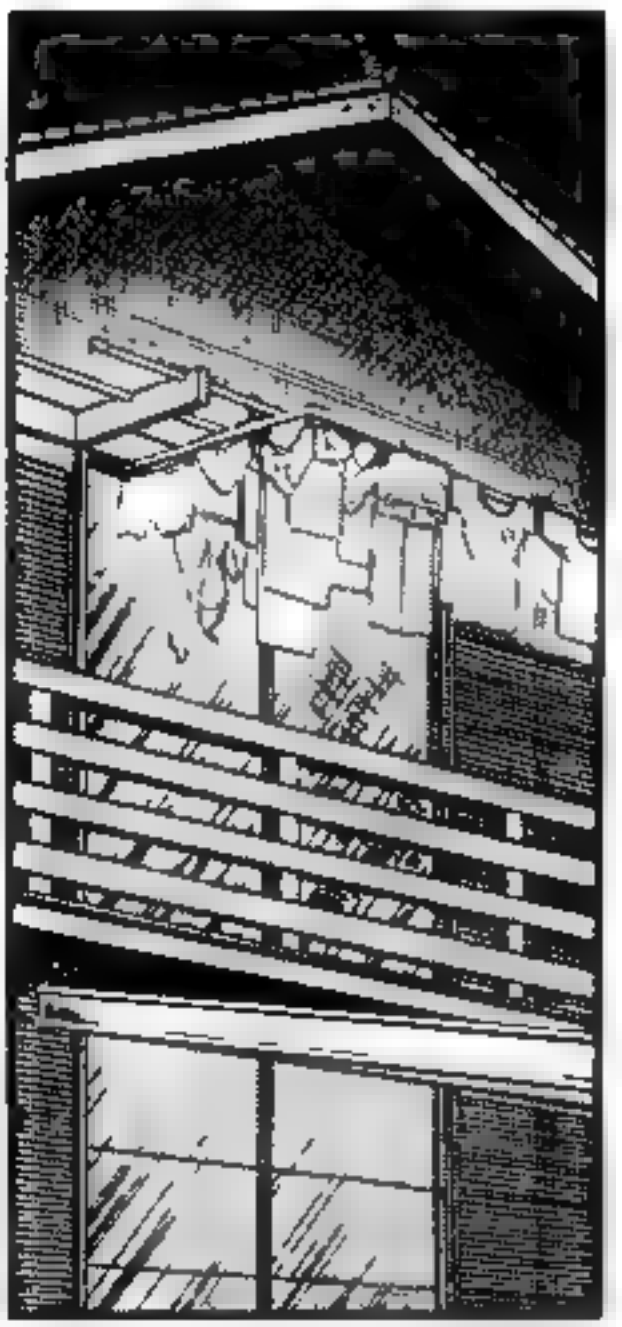

PON!

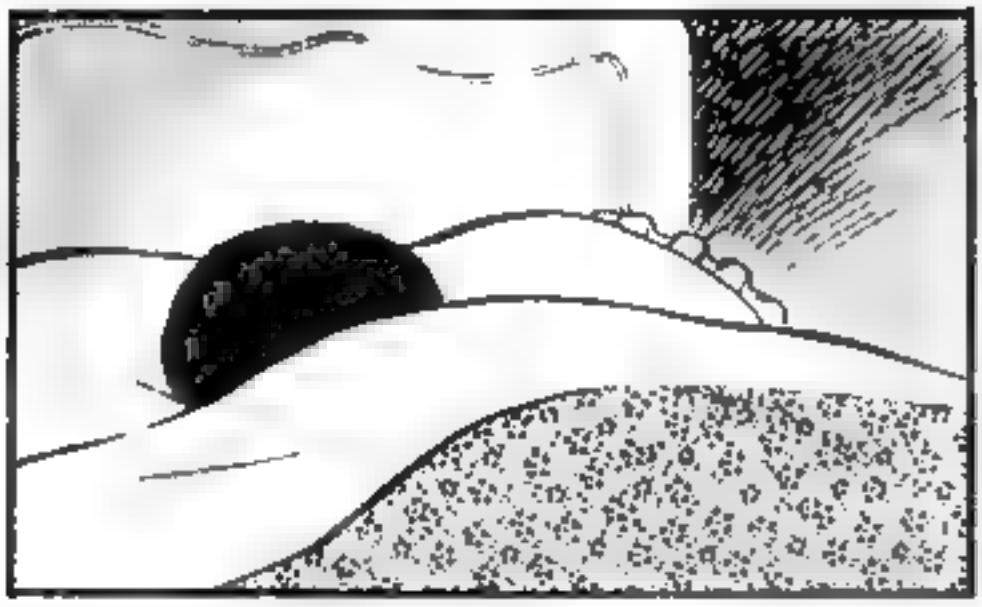
JAN-
KEN...!

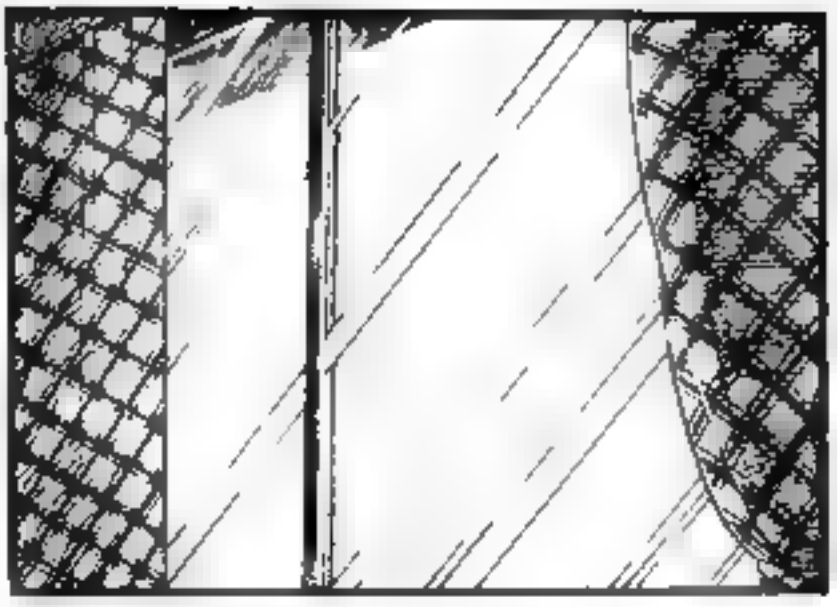
.....
SEE YOU LATER, KAZUYA-KUN!


FIRST OF ALL, TWO.. TO PUT INTO THE DRYER...

AHH-AH, SHE WASHED THEM ALL...

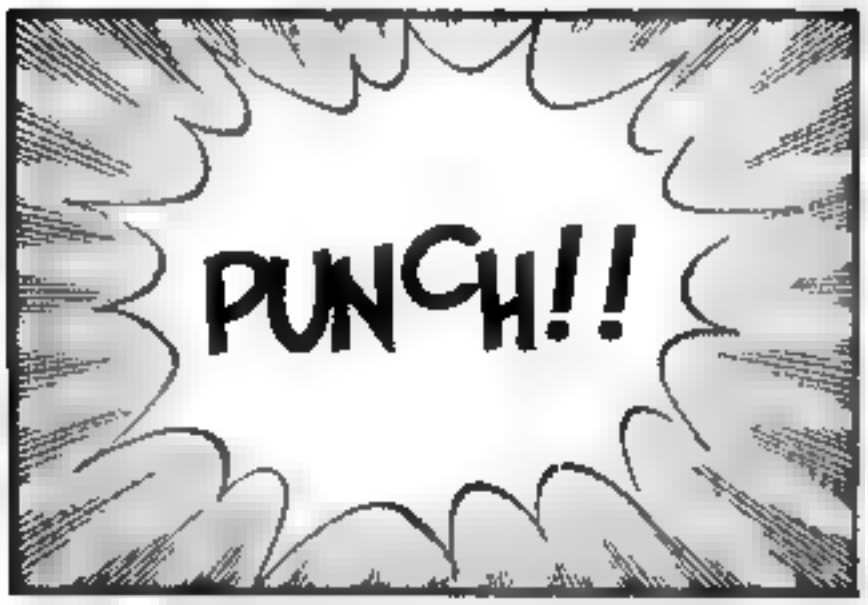






RATTLE...

AN
UNDERWEAR
TH...


PUNCH!!

EH?

BOW?

Punch

CRASH!

WAH!

WAH!

SFX. (ARF ARF)

SFX. (ARF ARF)

ARF?

OW-
OW-
OUCH!

HMM?

GOOD
EVENING
...

WHAT A
KLUTZ.

AH...

OW!

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT,
KATCHAN!?

YOU CAN ONLY BLAME YOURSELF FOR LOSING THE JAN-KAN!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

YOU'RE MORE EXPERIENCED AT THINGS LIKE THIS, ANIKI!

THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU!

WOULD IT BE OKAY NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO MY HEALTH...?

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF ANYTHING HAPPENED!?

IT'S KATCHAN'S PRECIOUS HEALTH THAT EVERYONE'S EXPECTATIONS HANG ON!

WHY DIDN'T YOU LOSE, TATCHAN!?

...HE'LL BE HEALED RIGHT AWAY.

FOR SOME-THING LIKE THAT, IN 2 OR 3 DAYS...

I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH THE BONE...

UH-HUH...

ARE YOU REALLY ALL RIGHT!?

AND SO.

THIS IS ALL BECAUSE YOU WASHED OUR CHANGE OF CLOTHING, MINAMI...

...AT ELEVEN ...

TOMOR-ROW...

AH.

KAT-CHAN...

?

...IS THE GAME...

Ehh!? You're Joking!

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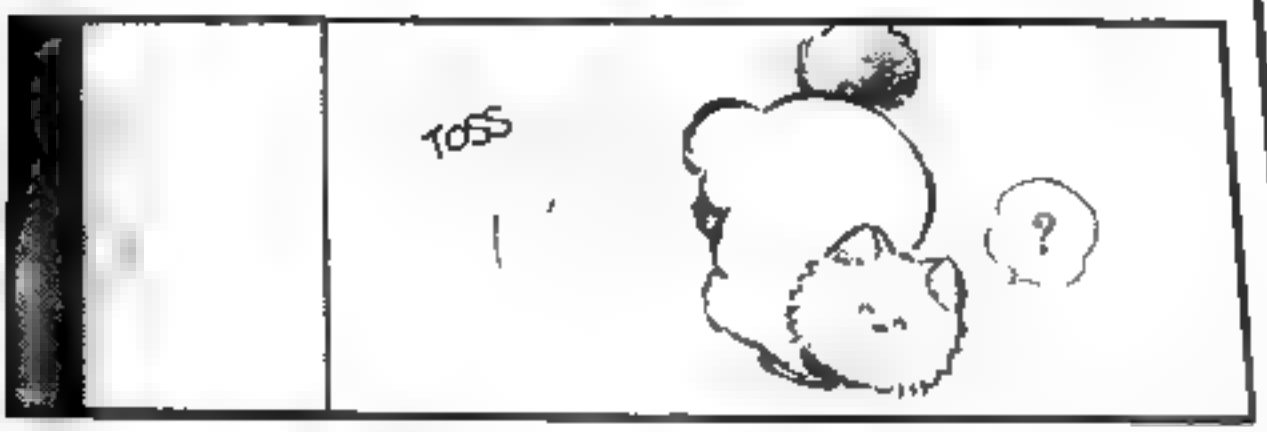

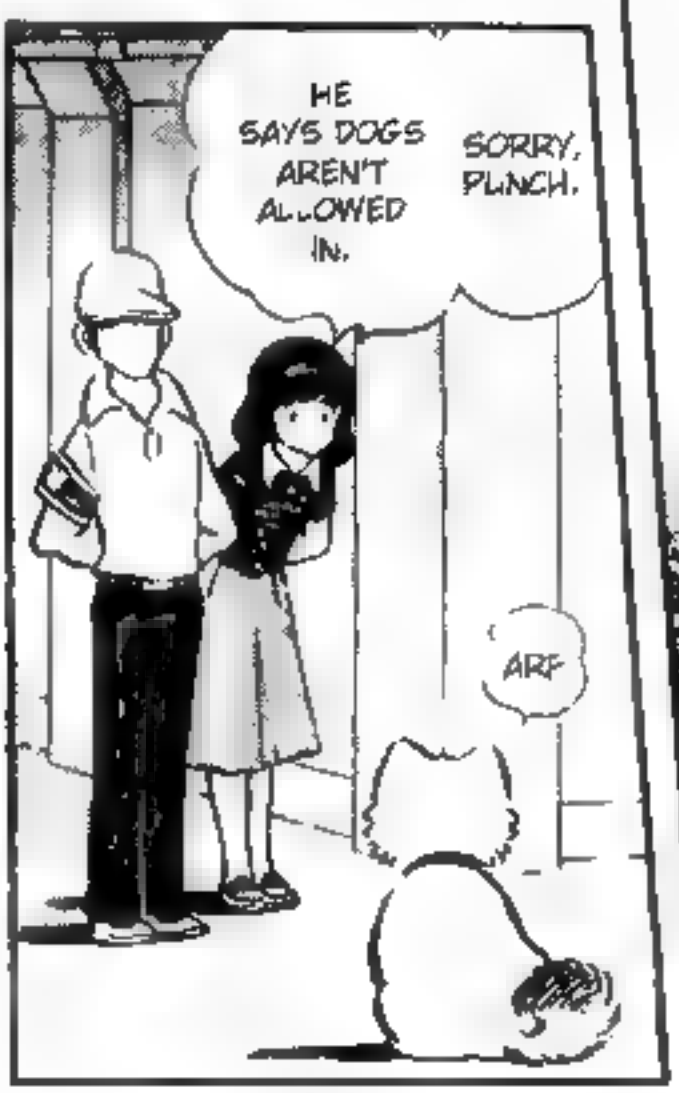

HUH-HH!?

MEISEI

KITAMIYA

IT'S NOT UESUGI!?

WHA-A-AT!?

MEISEI'S PITCHER IS TSUZUKI!?

IT SAYS ...

TENSION

I WONDER IF HE'S HURTING SOME-WHERE?

NOT REALLY ...

NO...

DOES HE LOOK THAT WAY?

OKAY, ALL SET!

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AND WHATEVER IT TAKES, WE'LL DRAG UESUGI OUT!

BASTARDS... SCREWING WITH US!

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN WE'LL HAMMER THEM FROM THE START...

YEAH!

.....

...WE'RE BEING TAKEN LIGHTLY?

DOES THAT MEAN...?

MAKING THEM UNEASY IS IN MY CALCULATIONS, TOO...

HEH HEH...

COACH, THE OTHER SIDE'S GETTING MAD.

RIGHT!

TAKE IT EASY AND PITCH!

UESUGI'S WAITING IN THE WINGS...

...DON'T HAVE ANY CONFIDENCE...

BUT, I...

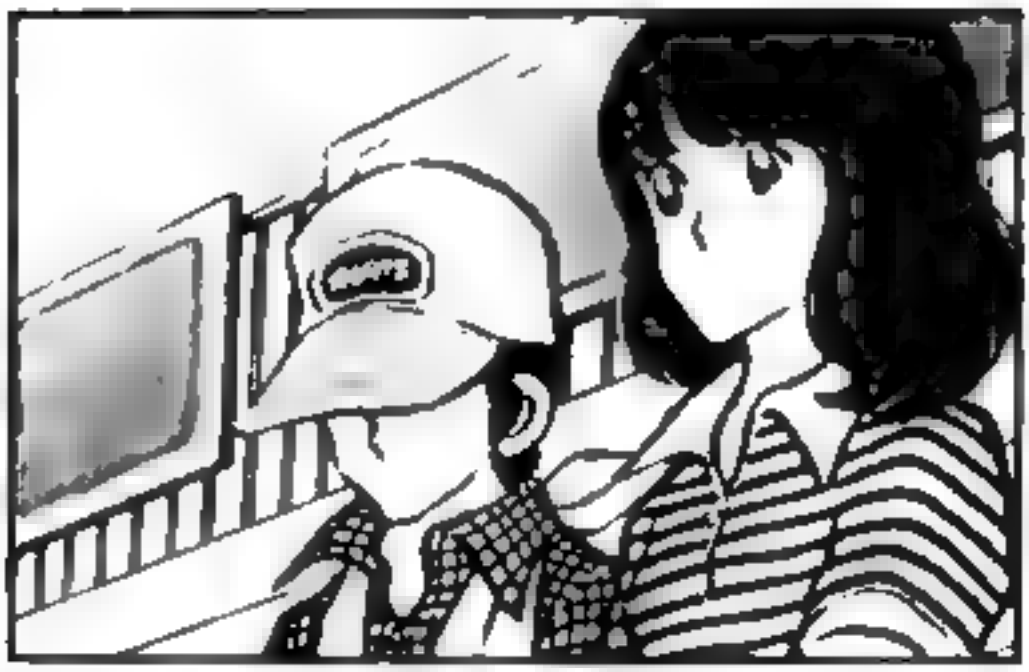
RIGHT!

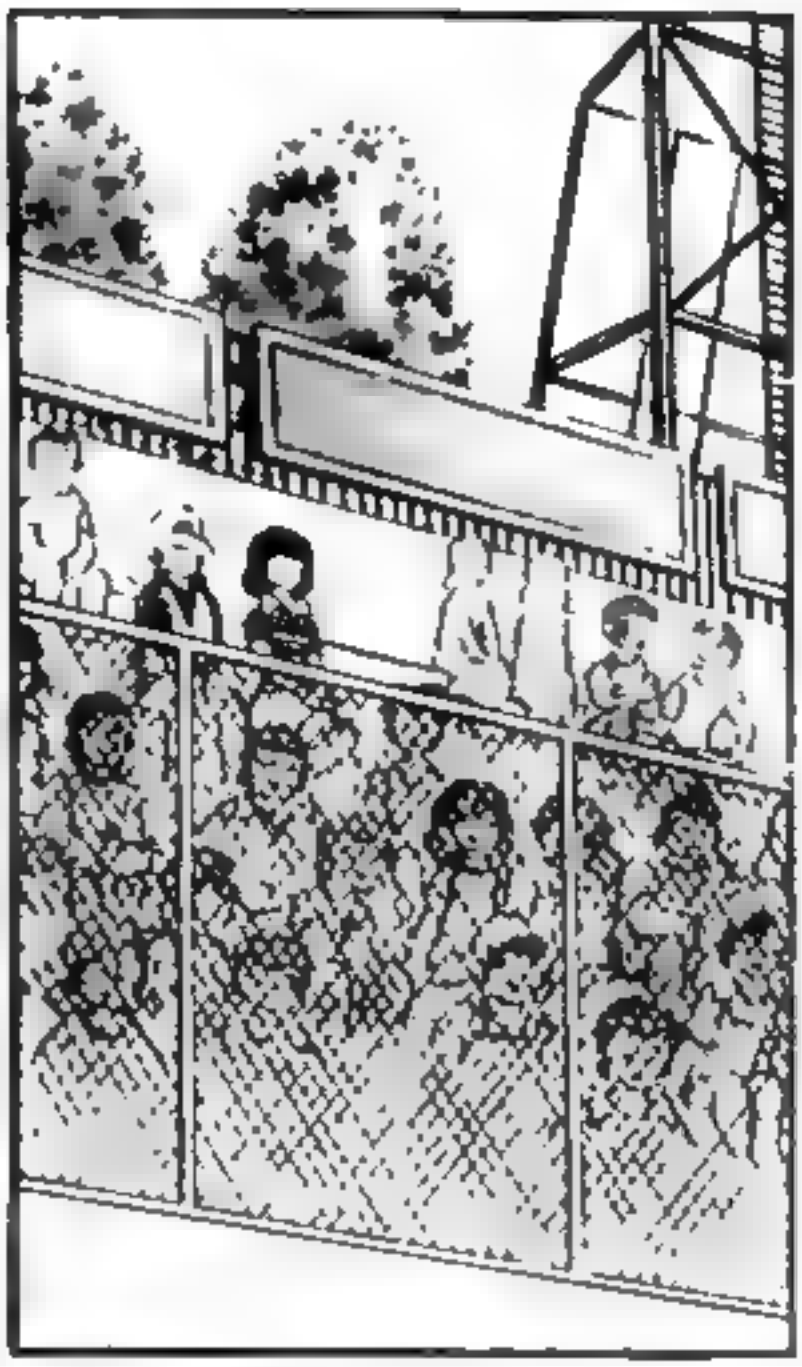
KOUTAROU ...

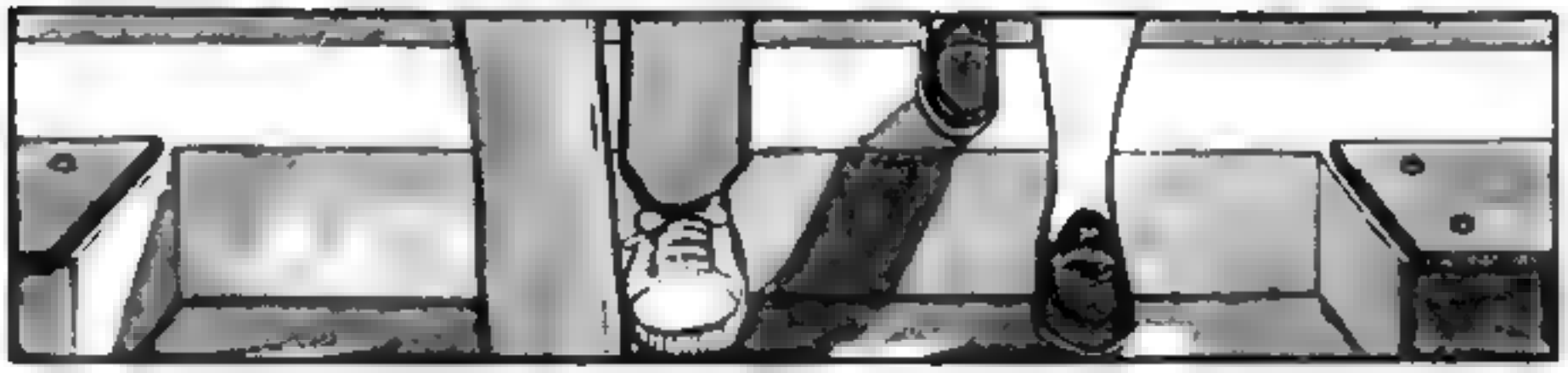
DON'T WORRY, EITAROU.

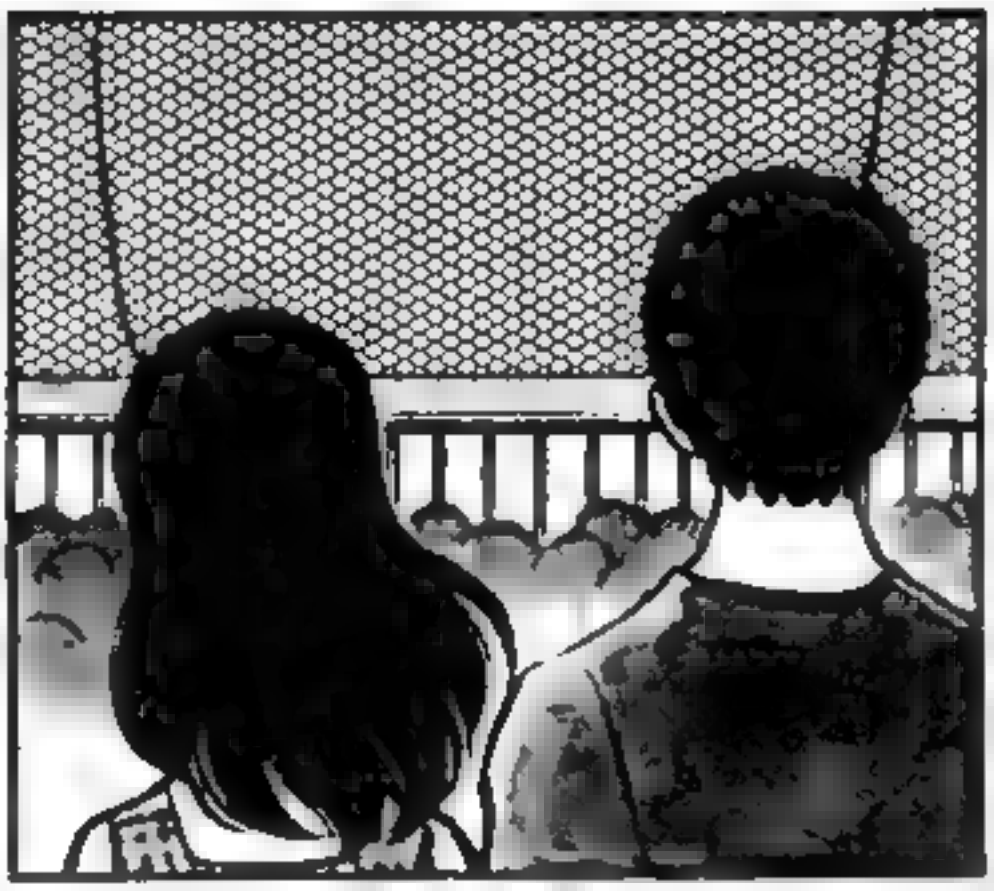
TODAY, YOU'RE A LITTLE STRANGE!!

KAZUYA, YOU REALLY DON'T FEEL ILL?



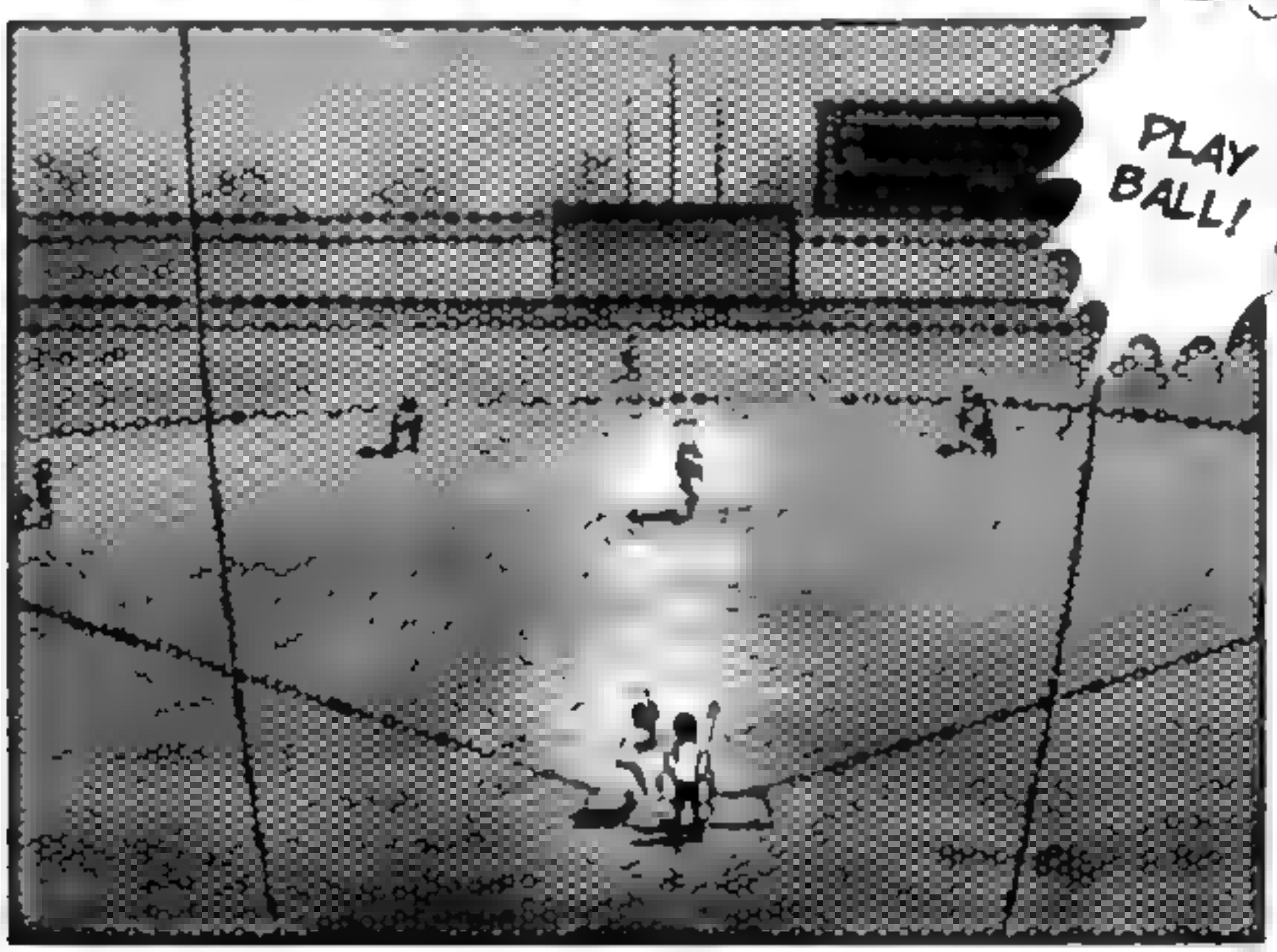






RIGHT!
WHEW

SILENCE!


PLAY BALL!

MEISEI

0

RATTLE

3 BATTERS WERE OUT IN A FLASH!

ARF

HERE I GO...

THEN, CAPTAIN ...

CLONK!

DO YOUR BEST, ZUTSUKI!

.....

RIGHT!

TSUZUKI ...

FLAIL

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

FLAIL

SFX: <WAHHH>

SFX: <WAHHH>

OUT!

Y'JERK!

SFX. <WHACK>

OHO.

SFX: <WAHHH>

URK

TATSUYA-KUN...?

SPORTS

SFX: <WAHHH>

SFX: <WAHHH>

RIGHT!

TENSION

HEY, YOUR FACE...

WHEW, SO HOT!

...THE OPPO-NENTS GAIN CONFI-DENCE...

...IT ENDS UP THAT KAZUYA-KUN CAN'T THROW...

IF...

THE TEAM-MATES LOSE THEIR SPIRIT...

FLAIL

SFX. <WAHHH>

IT PUTS PRESSURE ON THE OPPO-NENTS...

YA JERK!

...THE NINE ON THE FIELD CAN FEEL AT EASE, KNOWING HE'S BEHIND THEM...

EVEN IF IT'S ONLY SITTING ON THE BENCH...

TIN-SIGN

SFX. <WAHHH>

AND SO,

UESUGI KAZUYA NECESSARILY MUST BE HEALTHY AND ON THE BENCH...

MEI SEI

SFX: <WAHHH>

I SEE...

...IS WHAT THE COACH TOLD US.

OH, IT SEEMS TO BE A LIGHT SPRAIN...

BUT, WHAT ABOUT YOUR INJURY?

EH!?

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF! 'CAUSE YOU'RE OUR TEAM ACE NEXT YEAR.

GOOD!

I SEE!

IT'S MERELY A DIFFERENCE IN ABILITY...

HEH...

KUROKI-KUN IS MOVING TO THIRD, AND AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL.

YES,

BUT...

I, UNLIKE A CERTAIN SOMEONE, AM SURELY A FINE JUDGE OF CHARACTER...

.....

THAT'S RIGHT.

THE ONE SACHIKO LIKES...

HEY...

IT'S A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO START PLAYING BASEBALL...

SFX: <WAHHH>

...I WANT TO MAKE HIM THROW AT LEAST ONCE...

BUT, ANYHOW, IF HE'S ON THE BENCH...

SFX. <WAHHH>

THAT KIND OF TALK!

HEY! THAT'S GOING TOO FAR...

HUH?

THAT ONE'S JUST WEAK.

ENOUGH ALREADY. ADMIT YOUR MISTAKE.

IT'S JUST THAT HE EASILY GETS BORED.

FROM THE TIME WE WERE KIDS, ANIKI WAS MORE SKILLFUL AT ANYTHING WE DID FOR THE FIRST TIME.

HE'S QUICKER AT CATCHING ON TO THINGS THAN ME.

HMM...

WITH THIS AND THAT, THE GAME APPROACHED ITS END...

	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九
MEISEI	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
KITAMIYA	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	

SFX: <WAHHH>

SFX. <WAHHH>

RIGHT!

IF HE'S COME THIS FAR, LET HIM PITCH THE COMPLETE GAME AND GAIN CONFI-DENCE...

OH NO...

TSUZUKI'S REACHED HIS LIMIT!

COACH, LET'S GO WITH KAZUYA IN THE 9TH!

IN A FLASH, IT WAS TIED!

RATTLE

AND THEN, A LITTLE LATER, 2 OUTS, BASES LOADED...

OH GOD ...

SFX: <WAHHH>

ARF

.....

COACH!

EH?

EH?

SPORTS

DO YOU NEED TO WARM UP!?

I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, KAZUYA!!

"WHEW"

HURRY UP AND TAKE YOUR POSITION.

NO, I DON'T NEED TO.

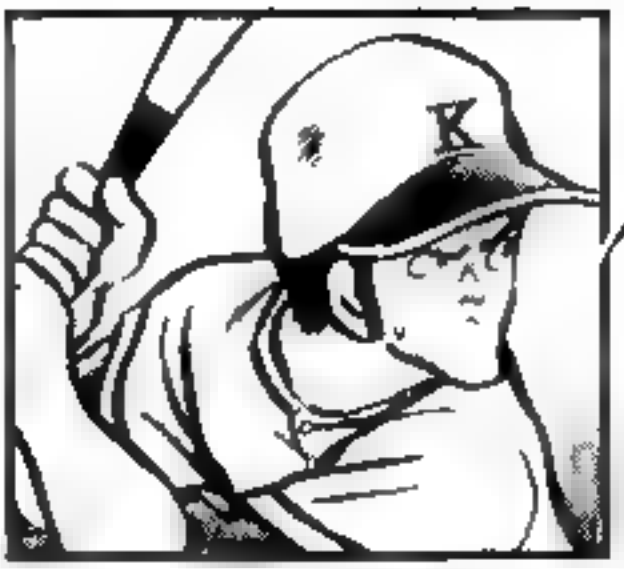
SFX: <WAHHH>

SFX: <WAHHH>

TAT-CHAN...

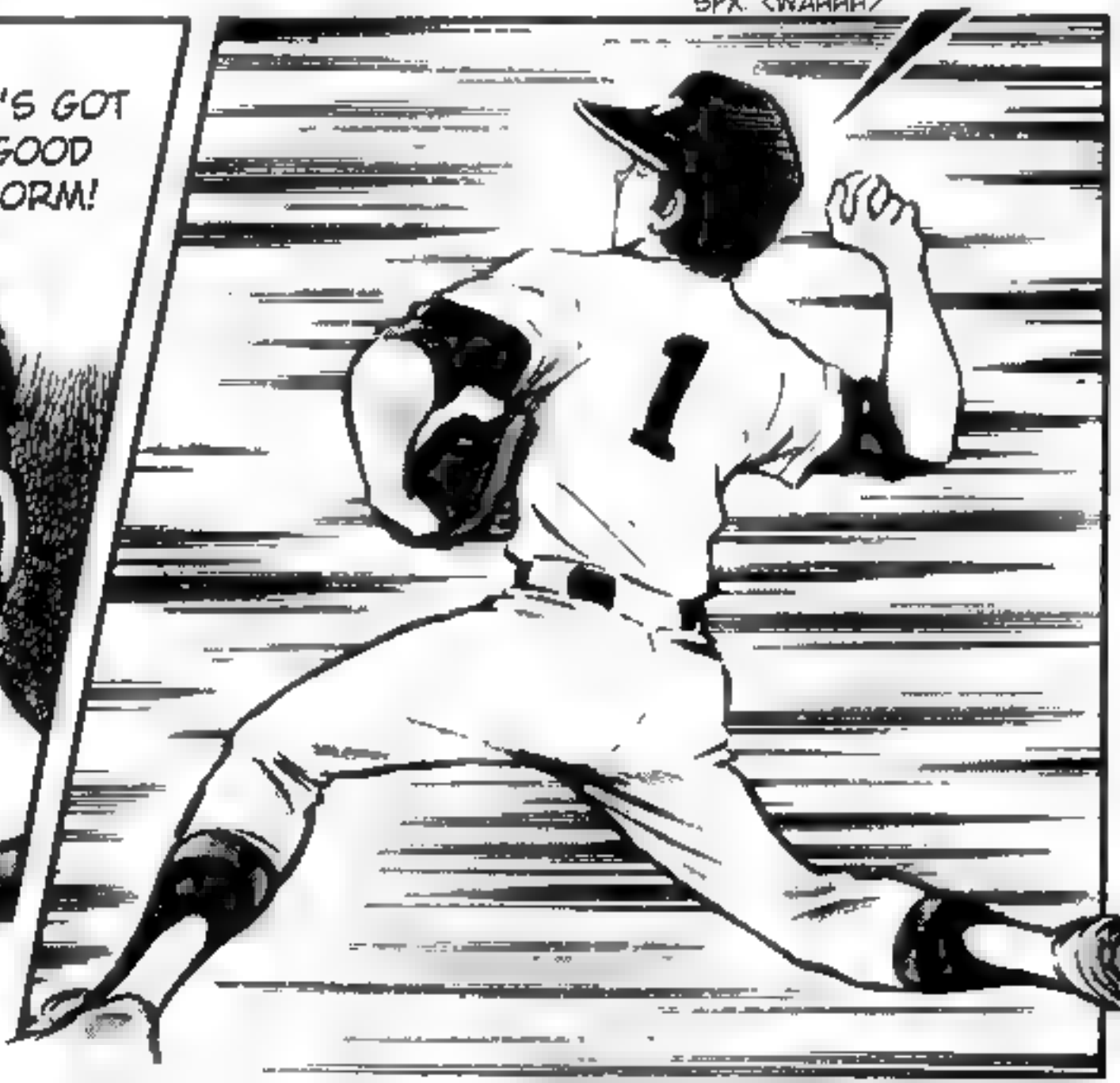
SFX: <WAHHH>

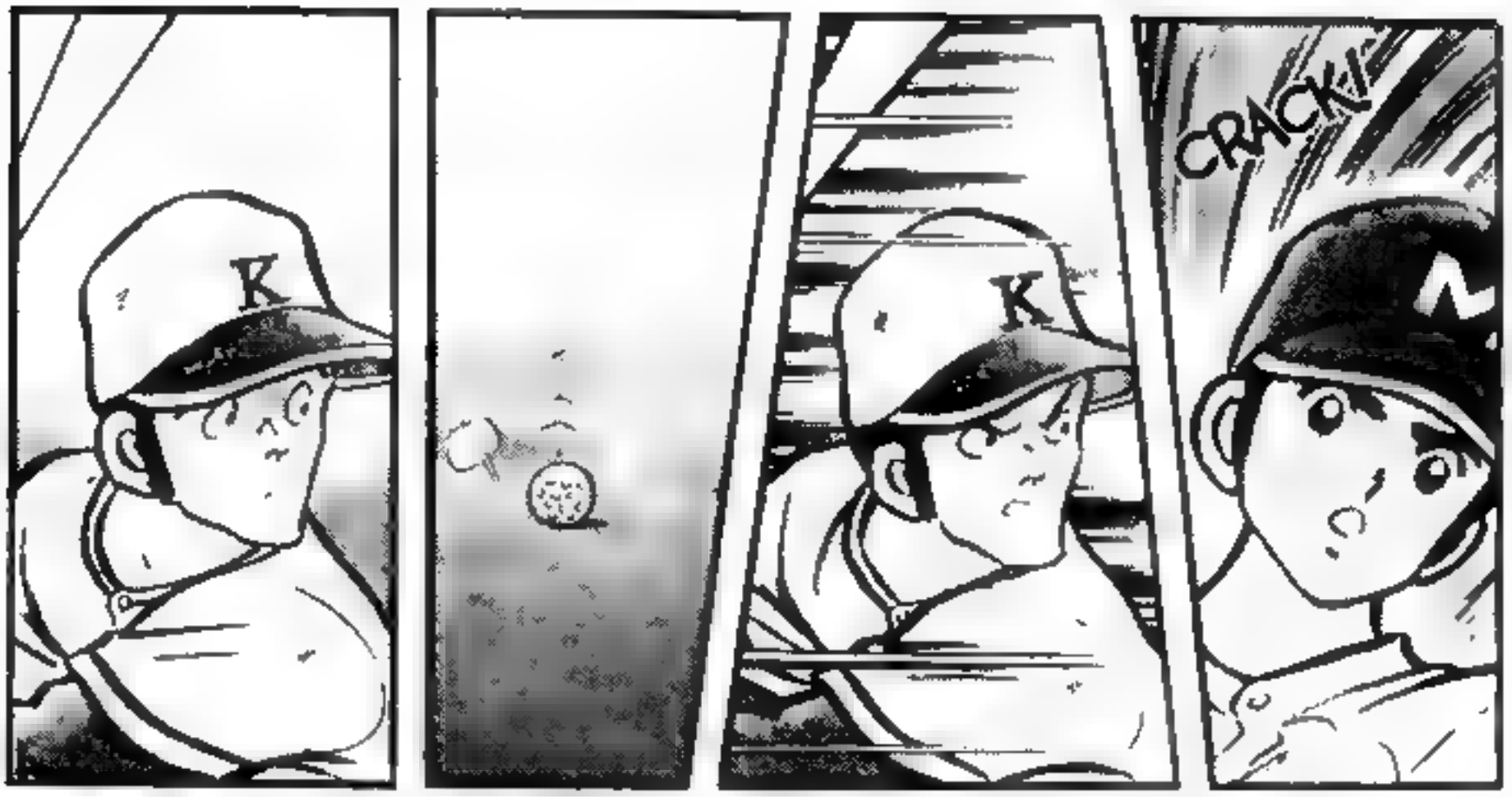
SFX: <WAHHH>

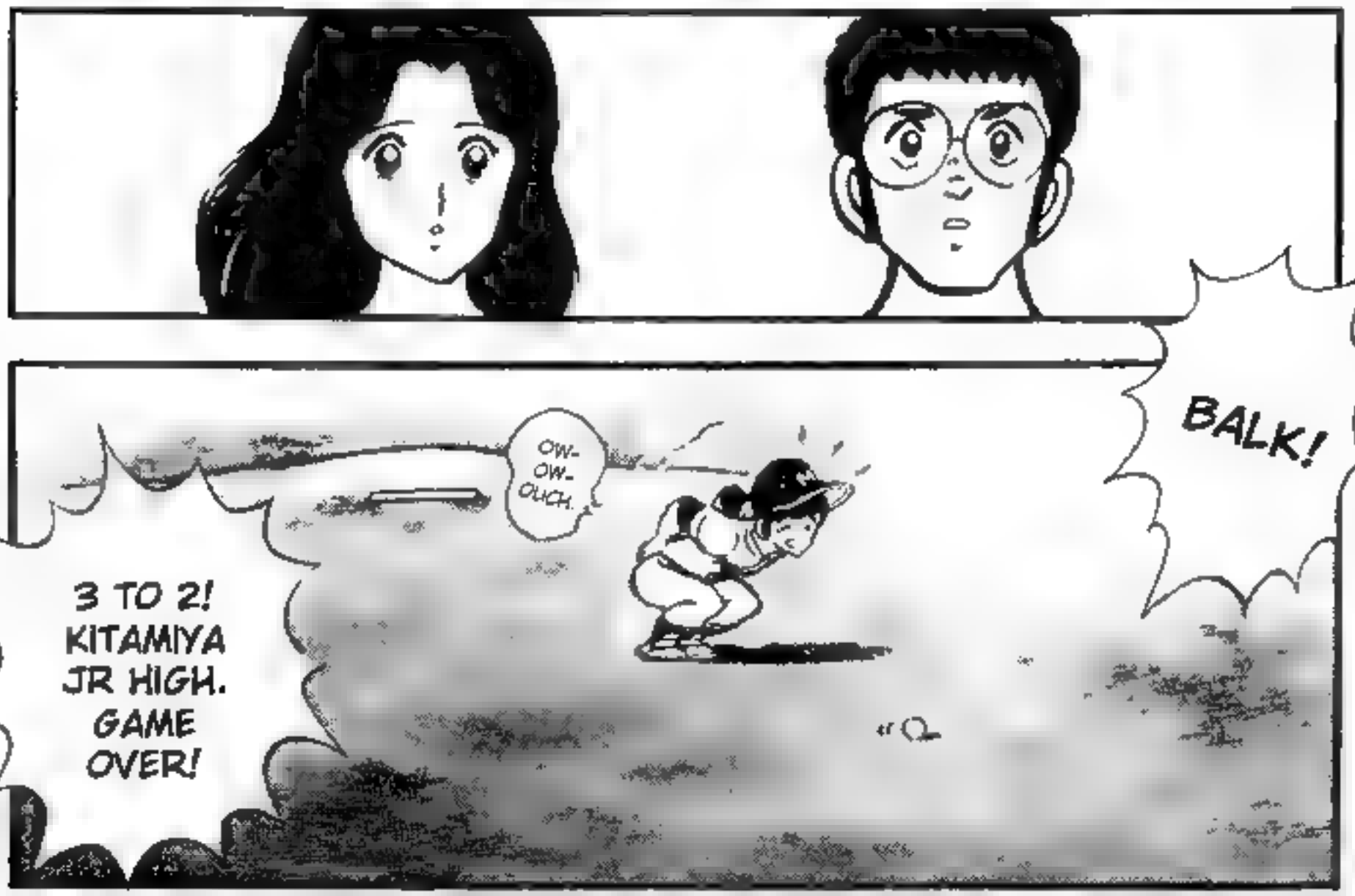


SFX: <WAHHH>

SFX: <WAHHH>




K
K
CRACK!


OW-
OW-
OUCH.
BALK!
3 TO 2!
KITAMIYA
JR HIGH.
GAME
OVER!

.....
.....

Good Things Come to Those Who Wait

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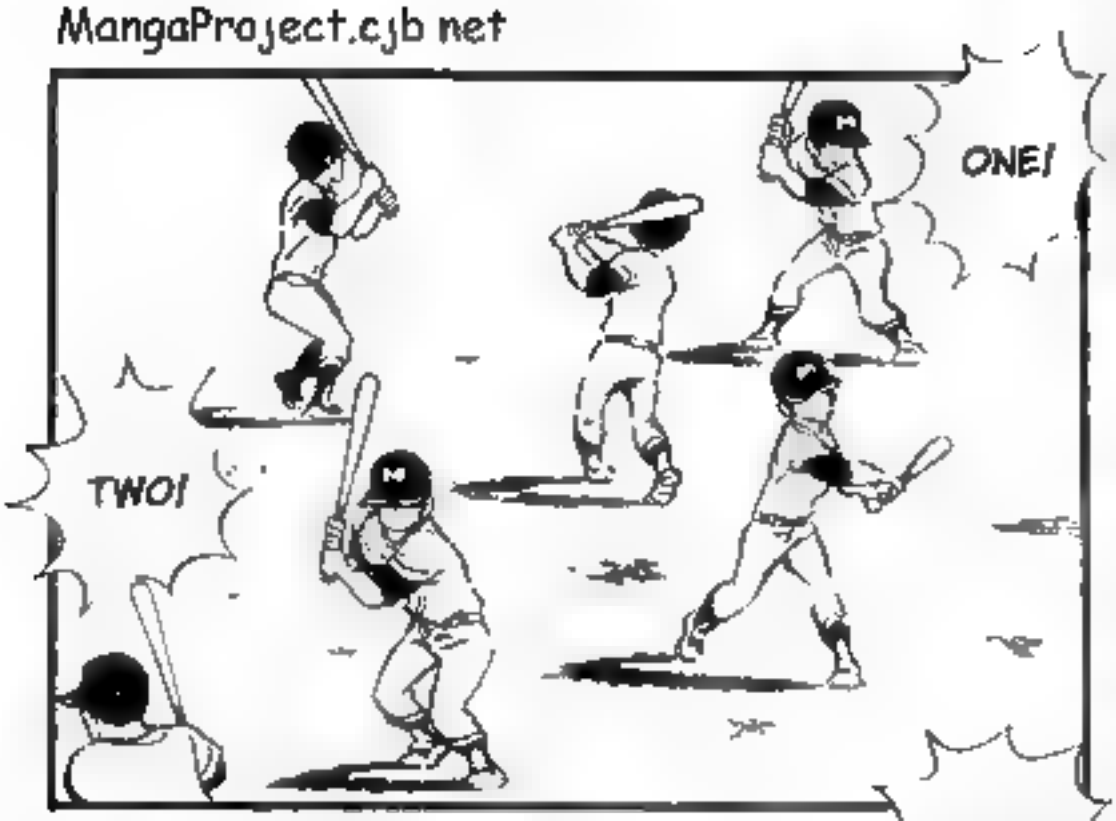

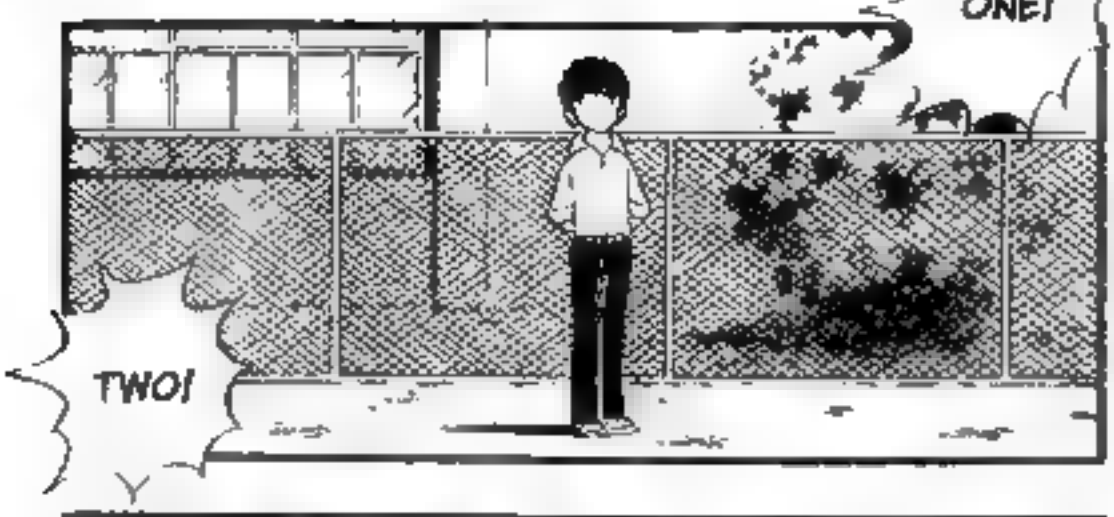

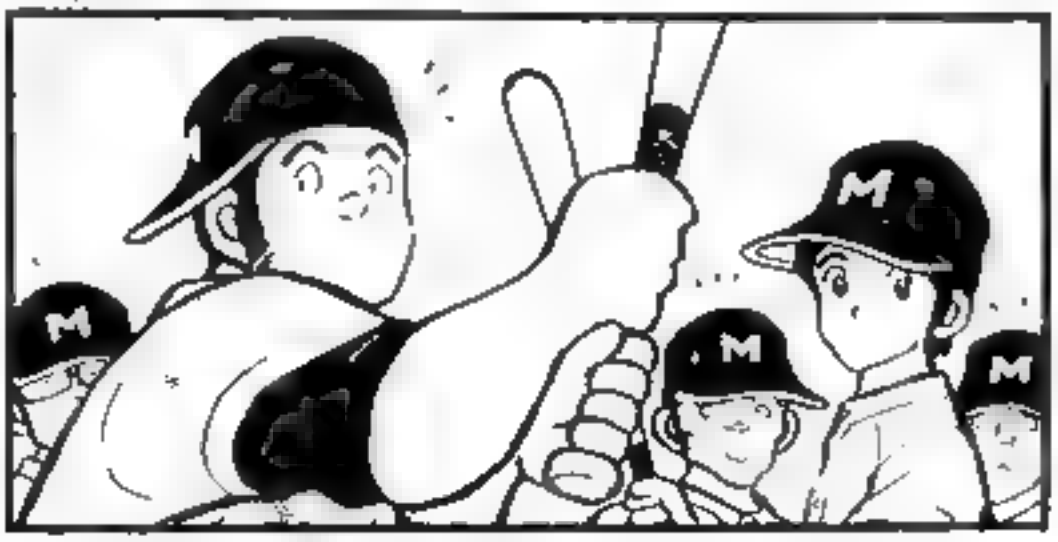

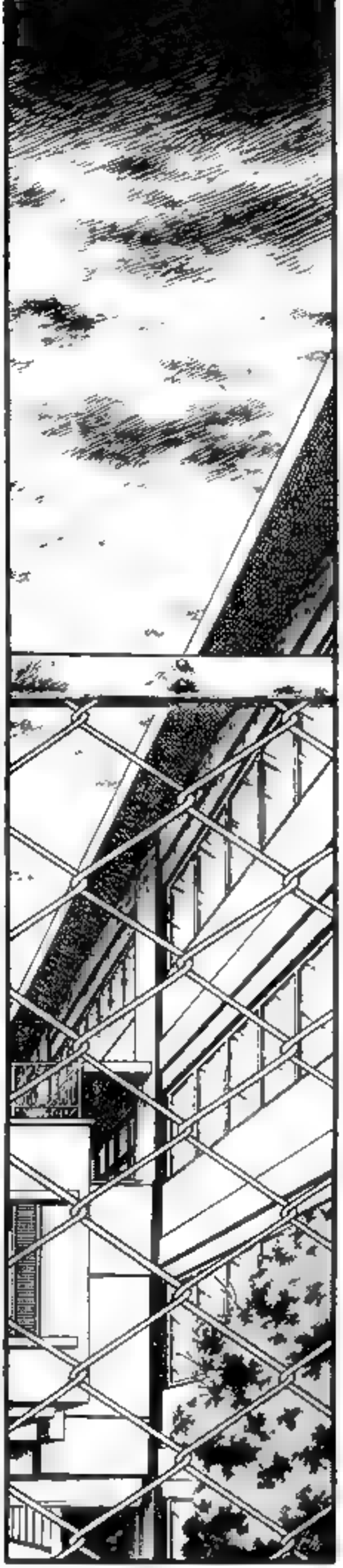

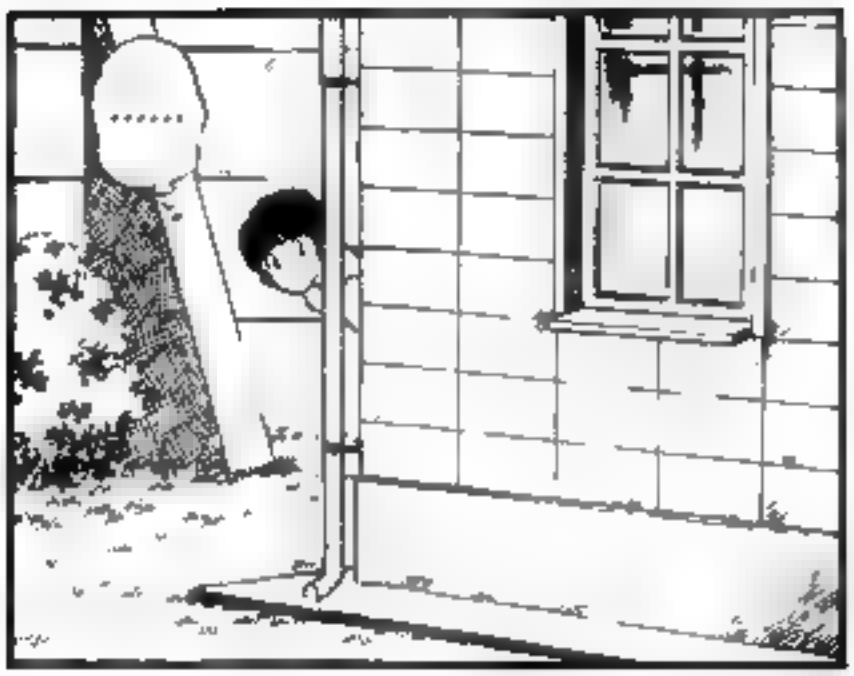
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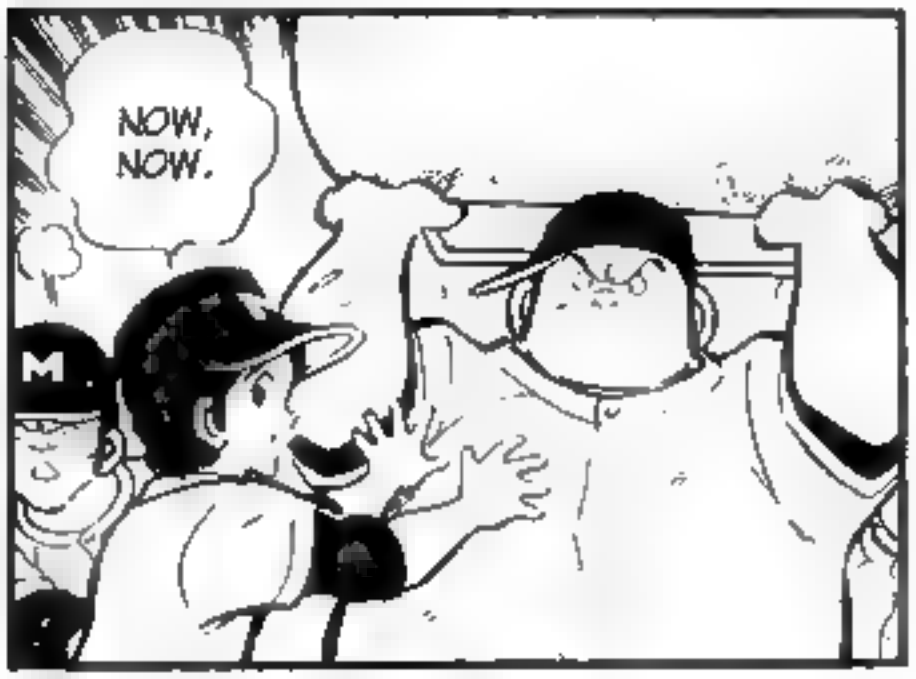
NOW, NOW.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL! IT'S YOUR FAULT THEY LOST THE GAME, TATCHAN!
WHAT'S WITH THOSE GUYS?

MAYBE IT WAS THE ATMO-SPHERE OF THAT OCCA-SION...
HMM ...

WHY DIDN'T YOU SIT QUIETLY ON THE BENCH!?

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'CAUSE THE BALL DIDN'T REACH THE PLATE.

YOU CERTAINLY WERE UNHITTABLE...

OW-OW-OU-CH.

THE CONFIDENCE THAT I'D BE TOTALLY UNHITTABLE...

I REALLY THOUGHT I COULD KEEP HIM FROM REACHING BASE.

MA-A-AN,

THAT'S WHY, YOU SHOULD HAVE ONLY DONE WHAT YOU WERE ASKED.

IT'S 'CAUSE THE COACH ASKED ME IN DESPERATION.

SHUDDUP... I DIDN'T STAND IN FOR KAZUYA FOR THE FUN OF IT!!

HMF.

WHENEVER YOU SEE ME, ALL YOU DO IS COMPLAIN.

EVEN IF YOU DO TRY TO LOOK COOL, DOING SO ALL OF A SUDDEN IS IMPOSSIBLE!

BUT IT'S CLEAR THAT YOU HAVEN'T PUT IN ANY EFFORT!

I WON'T SAY THAT YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANY TALENT, TATCHAN ...

EVEN I WANT TO SPEAK WELL OF YOU NOW AND THEN...

BLEAH!

WHAT ... WAS THAT?

FOR WHAT?

HAVE YOU VOTED ALREADY?

HEYYY, TAT-SUYA!

VOTED FOR BY ALL THE MALE STUDENTS IN SCHOOL.

THE ANNUAL MISS MEISEI JR. HIGH POPULARITY POLL,

YEAH, SO MINAMI IS RANKED FIRST AGAIN, ISN'T SHE?

THIS IS HOW IT STANDS, UP TILL TODAY.

The 12th Miss Meisei Popularity Poll

		Interim Announcement
1st	Shinozuka Kaori (1-B)	136
2nd	Asakura Minami (3-A)	128
	Takeuchi Setsuko (2-B)	3[illegible]
	[illegible]bayashi Masako (3-C)	28
	[illegible]uchi Hiromi (1-E)	25
	Mayumi (1-A)	12

THIS YEAR, A STRONG RIVAL HAS APPEARED!

BUT HOLD ON!

SHE'S ALSO QUITE ...

A 1ST-YEAR STUDENT ON THE GYMNASTICS TEAM.

HEH HEH.

SHINOZUKA KAORI?

MINAMI-CHAN'S 3-PEAT IS IN JEOPARDY!

.....

I'LL MAKE A NOTE OF IT ...

SHINO-ZUKA KAORI... HUH.

SACHI-KO-SAN!

YOU LIVE THIS WAY?

WHAT A COINCI-DENCE.

WHAT DISTRICT IS THAT?

DISTRICT 6.

YES, A BIT PAST THE FIRE STATION.

AHH, REALLY.

WHAT'S THE AD-DRESS?

HMM?

IT'S SO STRANGE ...

NOT EVEN ONCE...

UP TILL NOW, I HAVEN'T MADE A MISTAKE ON ANYONE I'VE JUDGED!

EH?

THAT TIME ...

YOU SAW?

I PUT MY HOPES ON YOU...

THAT'S RIGHT.

OHH?

OH ...

WHEN YOU RESPOND TO MY HOPES...

WHY DON'T WE GO TO A MOVIE NEXT TIME?

I'M IN SORTA BAD SHAPE...

'KA-A-AY.

WE CAN TALK ABOUT DATES AFTER THAT...

FIRST, DO SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR LACK OF EXERCISE.

EVEN I WANT TO SPEAK WELL OF YOU NOW AND THEN...

.....

The Asakura household...

UESUGI

FFEE
南風
OPEN

AWNING. MINAMIKAZE COFFEE SHOP

The Uesugi household...

ALL RIGHT, IT'S DECIDED!

TRAINING! I'LL DO IT!

REALLY?

IF I TAKE IT INTO MY HEAD TO DO SOMETHING, YOU'LL SEE JUST HOW TERRIFIC I AM!

YES!

EH?

KAZUYA, STARTING TOMORROW MORNING, I'M RUNNING WITH YOU!!

I'LL SAY IT NOW... IT'S NOT BECAUSE OF WHAT YOU SAID, MINAMI!!

.....

IT'S TO RESPOND TO THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE BEAUTIFUL MANAGER.

DON'T MISUNDERSTAND.

I'M NOT THINKING.

ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR.

TOMORROW MORNING, I'LL WAKE YOU UP, 'KAY, KAZUYA.

GOOD. IF THAT'S SETTLED ...

I'LL GO TO BED EARLY!

WELL, GOOD NIGHT.

SLAM

IT'S A WELCOME THING...

WELL, WHATEVER ...

IT'S STILL BEFORE 9:00...

HUH?

Schedule

DO YOU KNOW? RIGHT NOW THE GUYS ARE DOING THE MISS MEISEI JR HIGH POPULARITY POLL

OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

HOW I'D LIKE TO DRINK SOME COFFEE ...

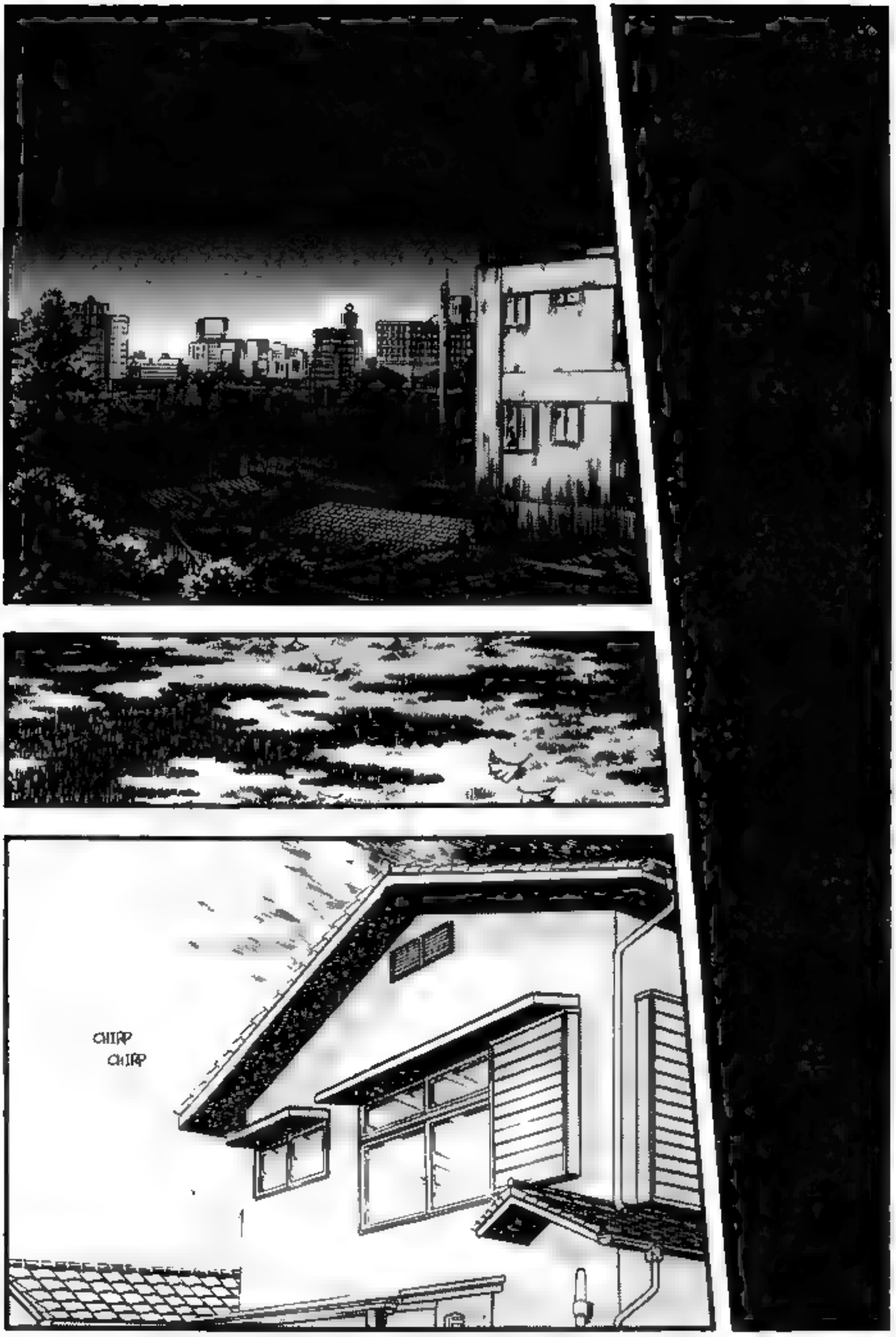
THANK YOU ...

OH ...

I VOTED FOR YOU, MINAMI...

SURE ENOUGH.

IN THAT SORT OF CHARACTER TRAIT YOU'RE BROTHERS, HM?


CHIRP
CHIRP

MMM ...

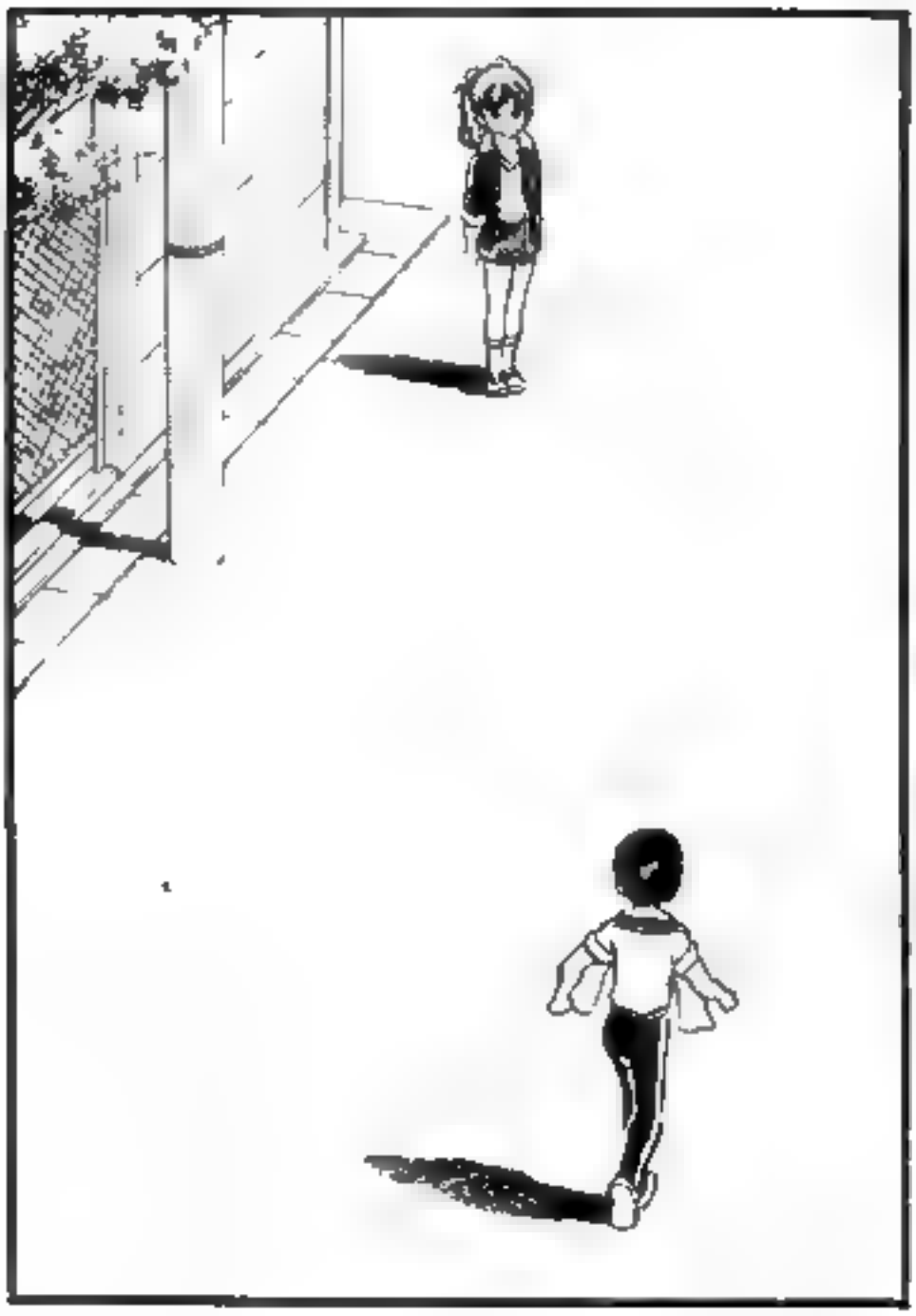
MMM!

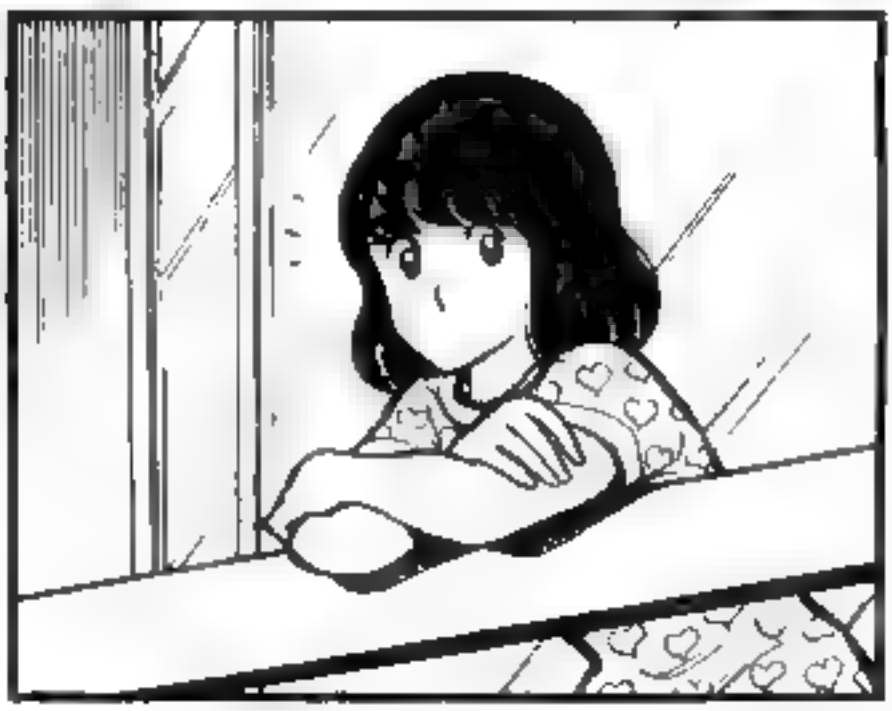
HEY, ANIKI!

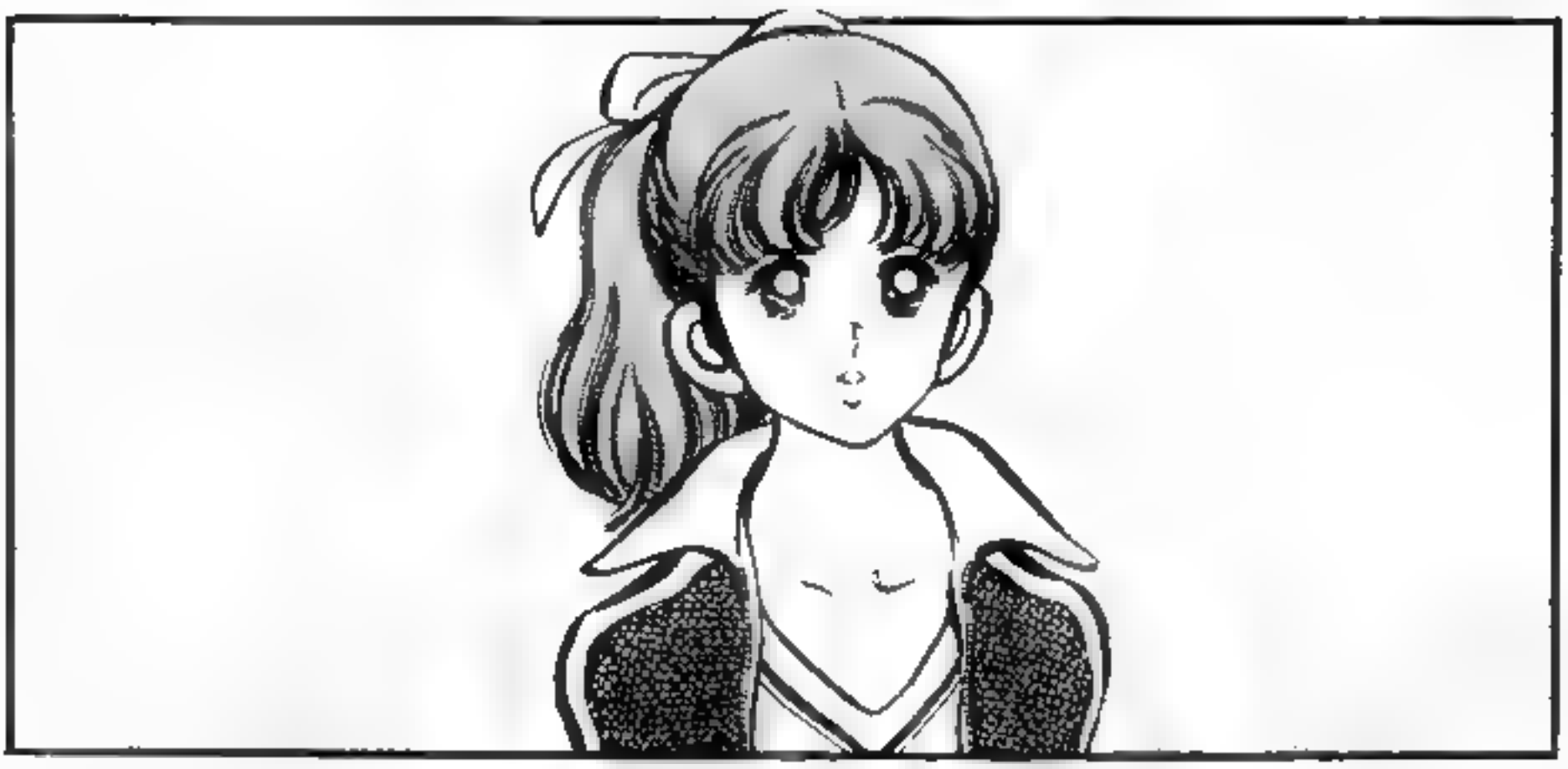
ANIKI, I'M GOING.

CHIRP CHIRP

SURE ENOUGH ...







Same Difference Either Way

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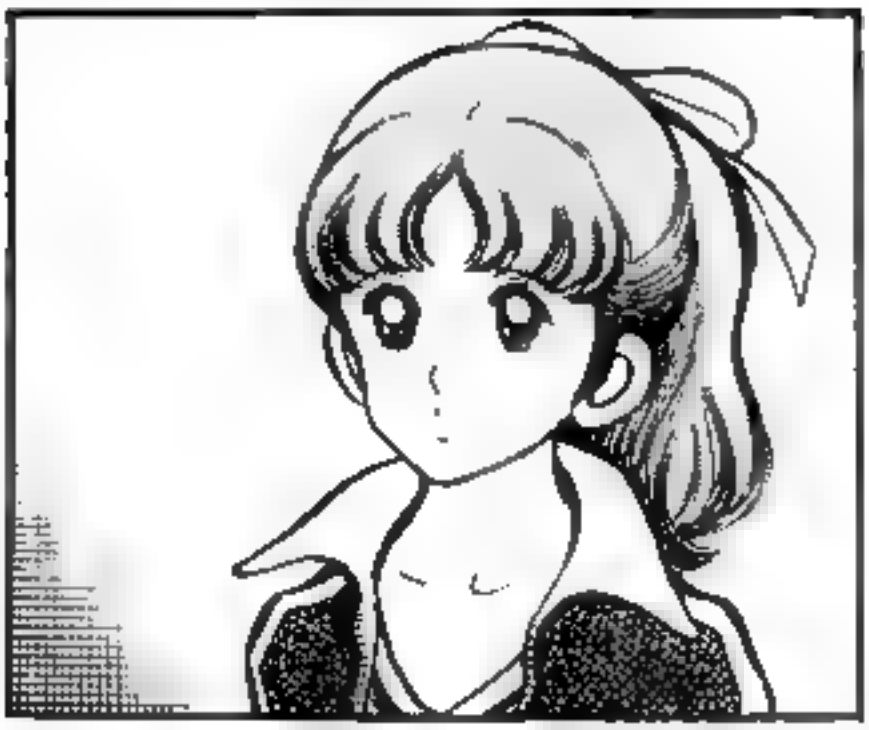

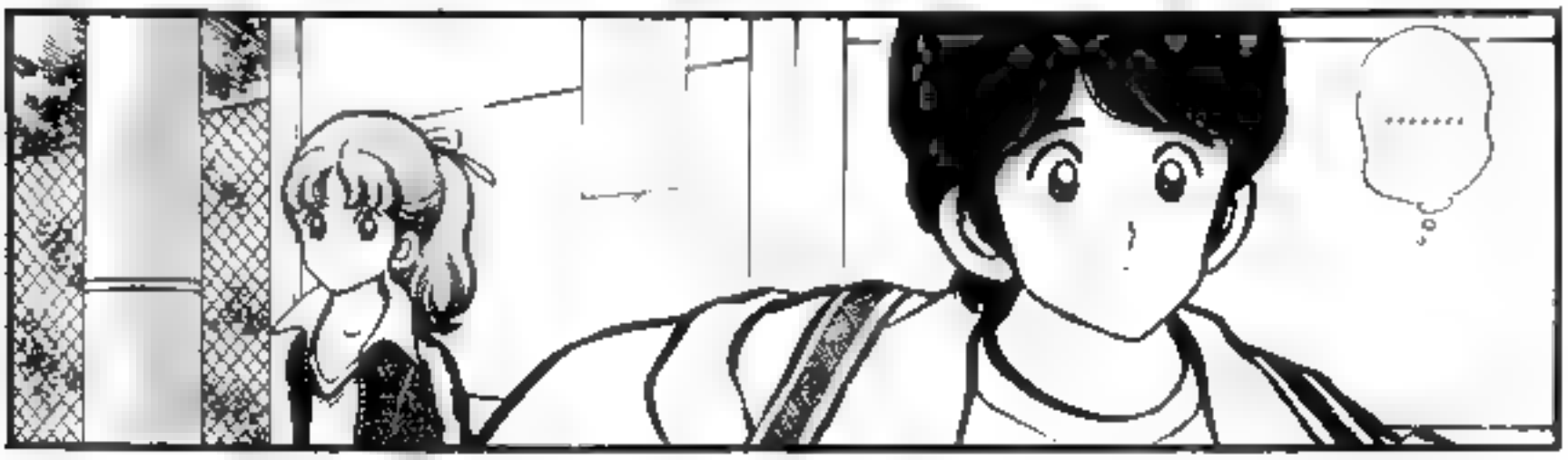

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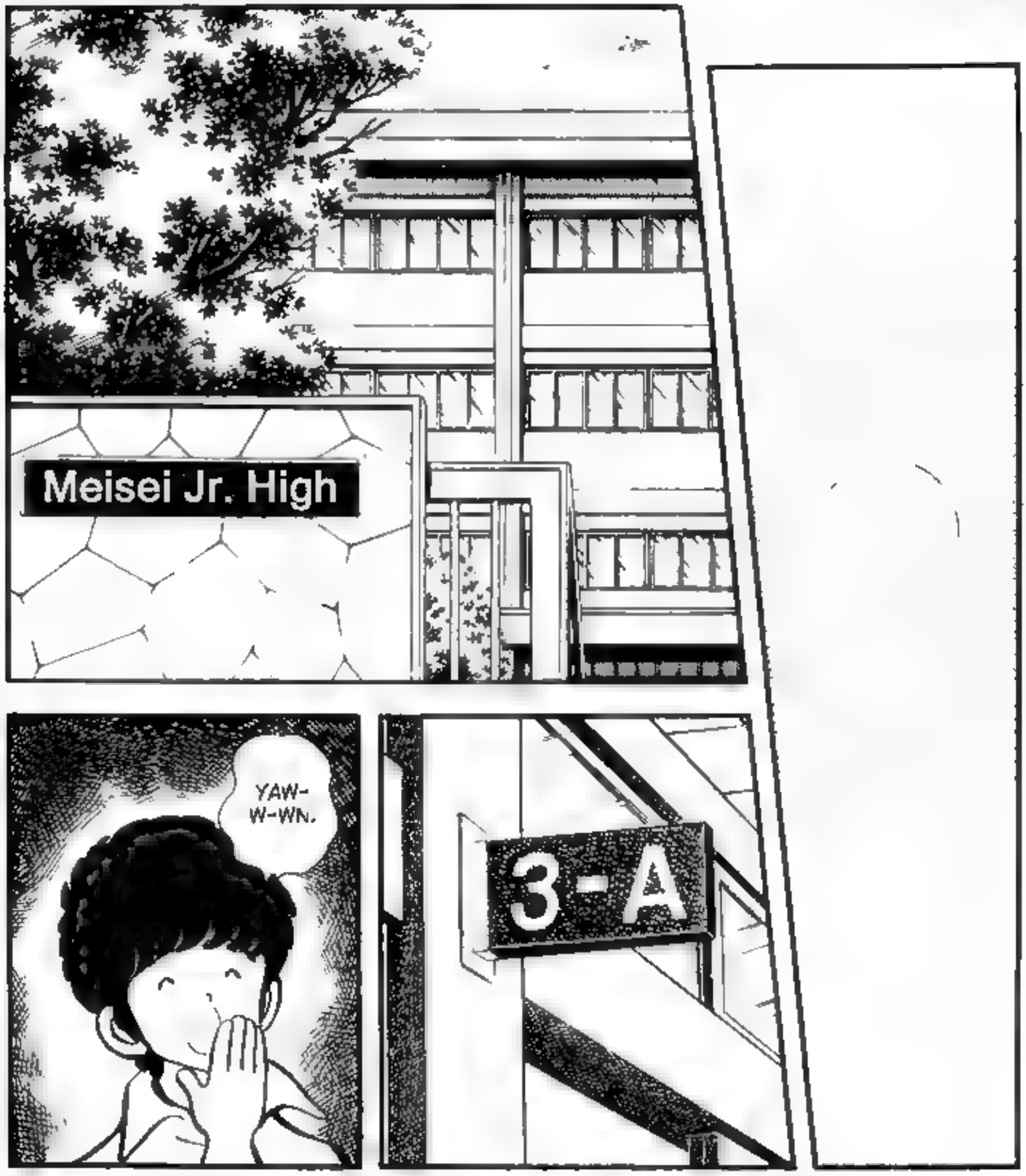

Meisei Jr. High
YAW-
W-WN.
3-A

FOR SURE!

START-ING TOMOR-ROW,

YUP!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EARLY MORNING RUN!?

JUST HOW MANY HOURS OF SLEEP DO YOU NEED TO BE HAPPY?

OH, IT'S YOUR RIVAL, MINAMI!

THE MISS MEISEI JR HIGH POPULARITY POLL.

SHE'S MY RIVAL FOR WHAT?

OHH...

A POPULARITY POLL.

IT DOESN'T MATTER EITHER WAY.

THAT'S A BIT OF A DISAD-VANTAGE FOR YOU, A 3RD-YEAR STUDENT,HUH, MINAMI...

BUT, FOR GUYS, WE WOULD MOST LIKELY CHOOSE A GIRL IN THE SAME GRADE OR YOUNGER, SURE ENOUGH...

WHO'S THAT GIRL?

BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SHE RAN ACROSS HIM BY CHANCE...

IT DIDN'T APPEAR THAT SHE SAID ANYTHING TO HIM...

THAT'S NOT IT.

OHH, SO YOU'RE CONCERNED AFTER ALL.

EH?

THAT GIRL.

THIS MORNING SHE WAS RUNNING, FOLLOWING AFTER KATCHAN...

OH,
NOTHING
...

HUH?

KAZUYA
AGAIN,
HUH!?

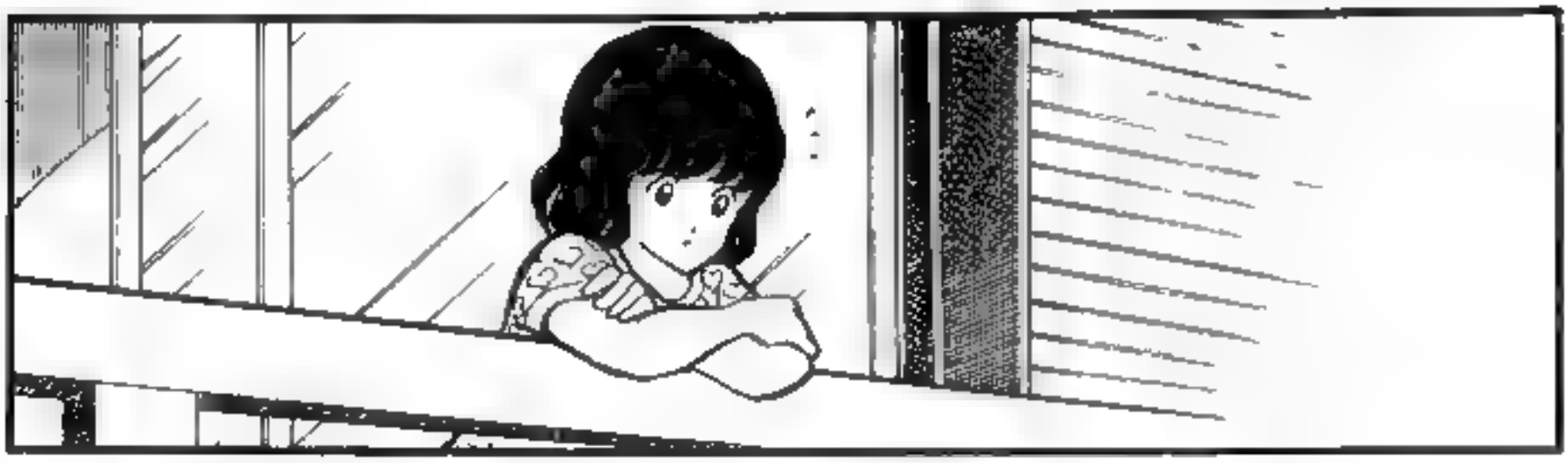
SHIT!

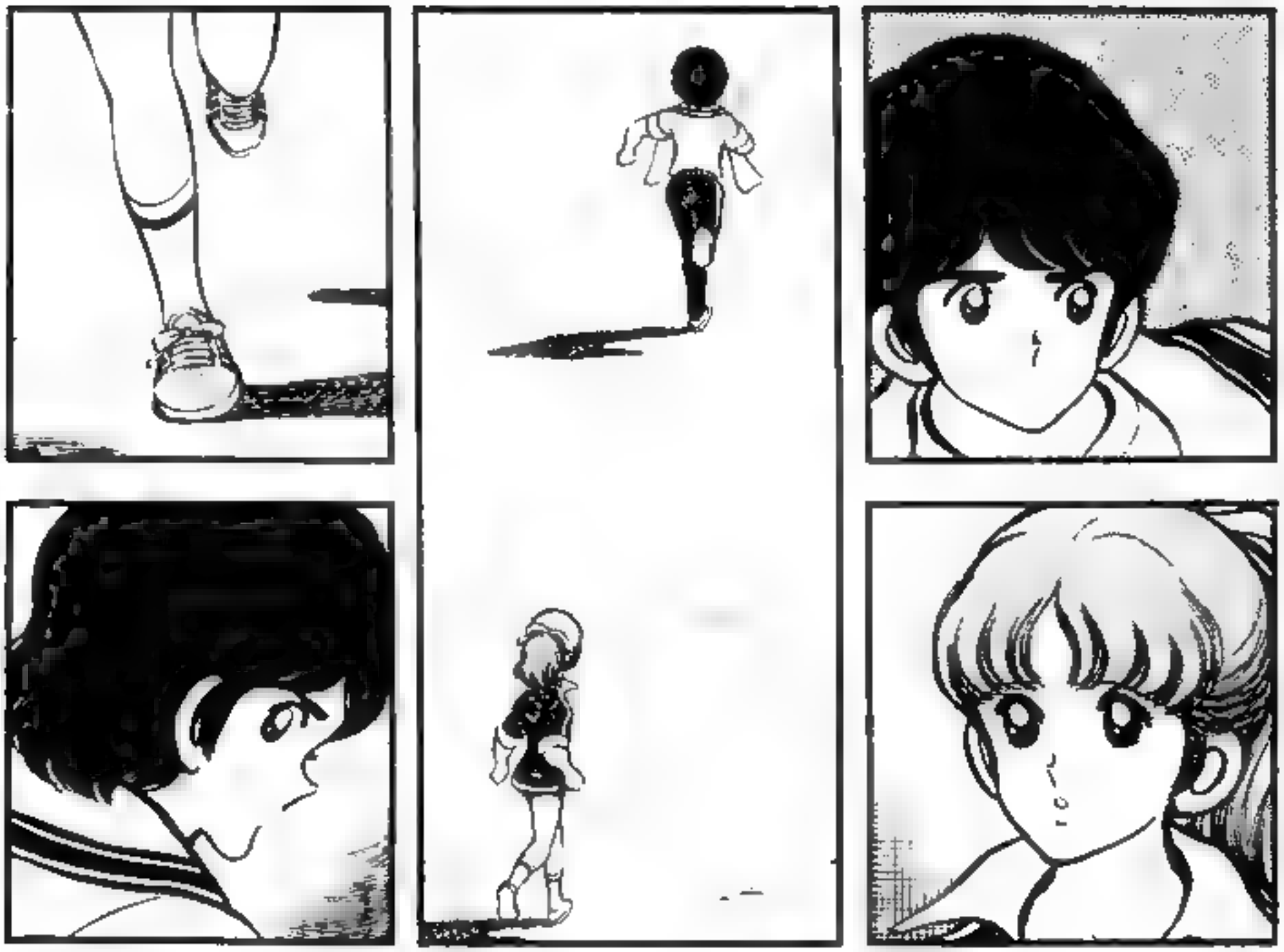
Early morning running, huh...

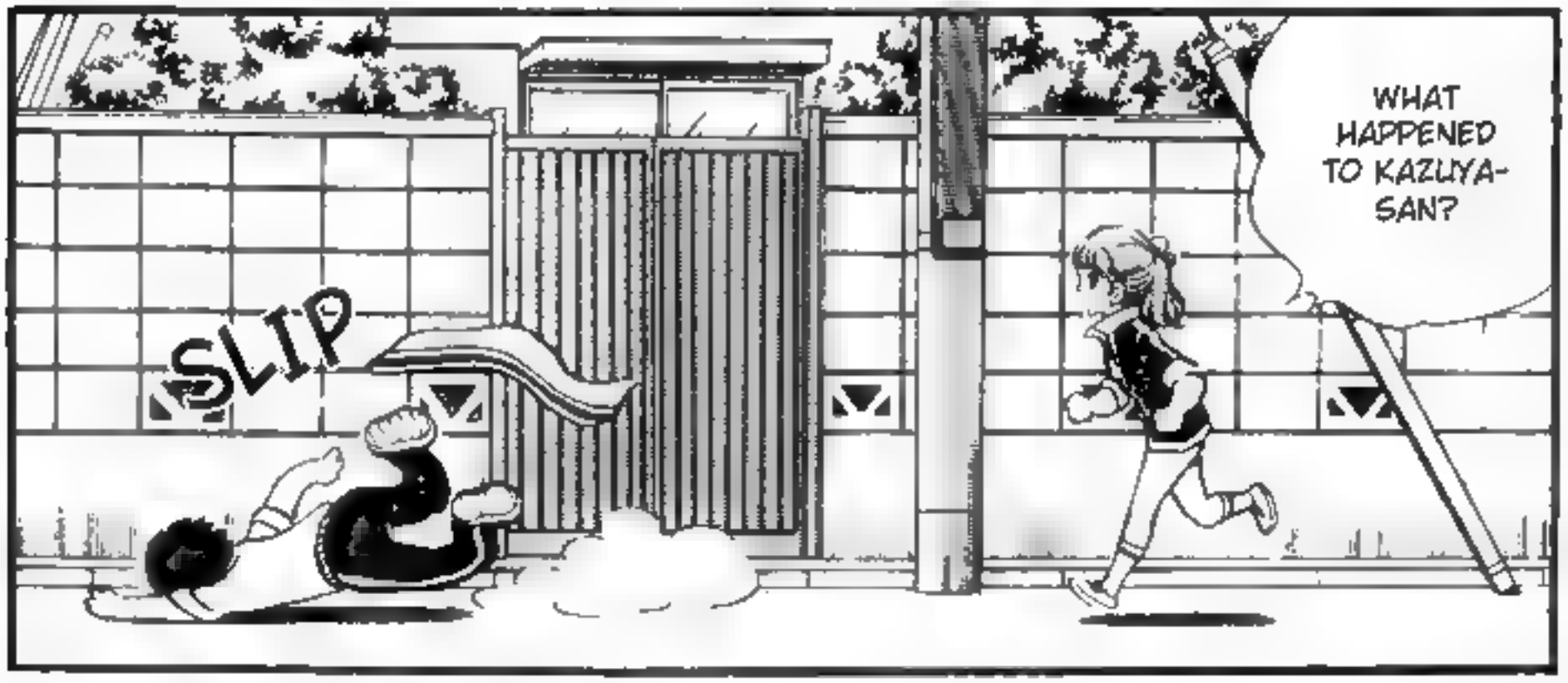
Punch!

ZZ

CHIRP CHIRP






SLIP
WHAT HAPPENED TO KAZUYA-SAN?

OHH!?
O-

RATTLE
RATTLE

MFF!

MFF!

HOW DID YOU KNOW?

SOMEHOW FELT THAT WAY... HM...

IT SOMEHOW FELT THAT WAY...

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EVEN IF YOU FALL FOR KAZUYA, IT'S USELESS.

JUST ...

NOTHING REALLY ...

HUH?

WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH KAZUYA?

THEY'RE WELL-KNOWN, EVEN AT SCHOOL... THAT COUPLE.

THERE'S ASAKURA MINAMI.

WHY IS THAT?

HUH !?

TATSUYA-SAN, AREN'T YOU THE ONE ASAKURA-SAN LIKES!?

.....

WHY?

IT SOMEHOW SEEMS THAT WAY.

HM-M.

I'M SURE ...

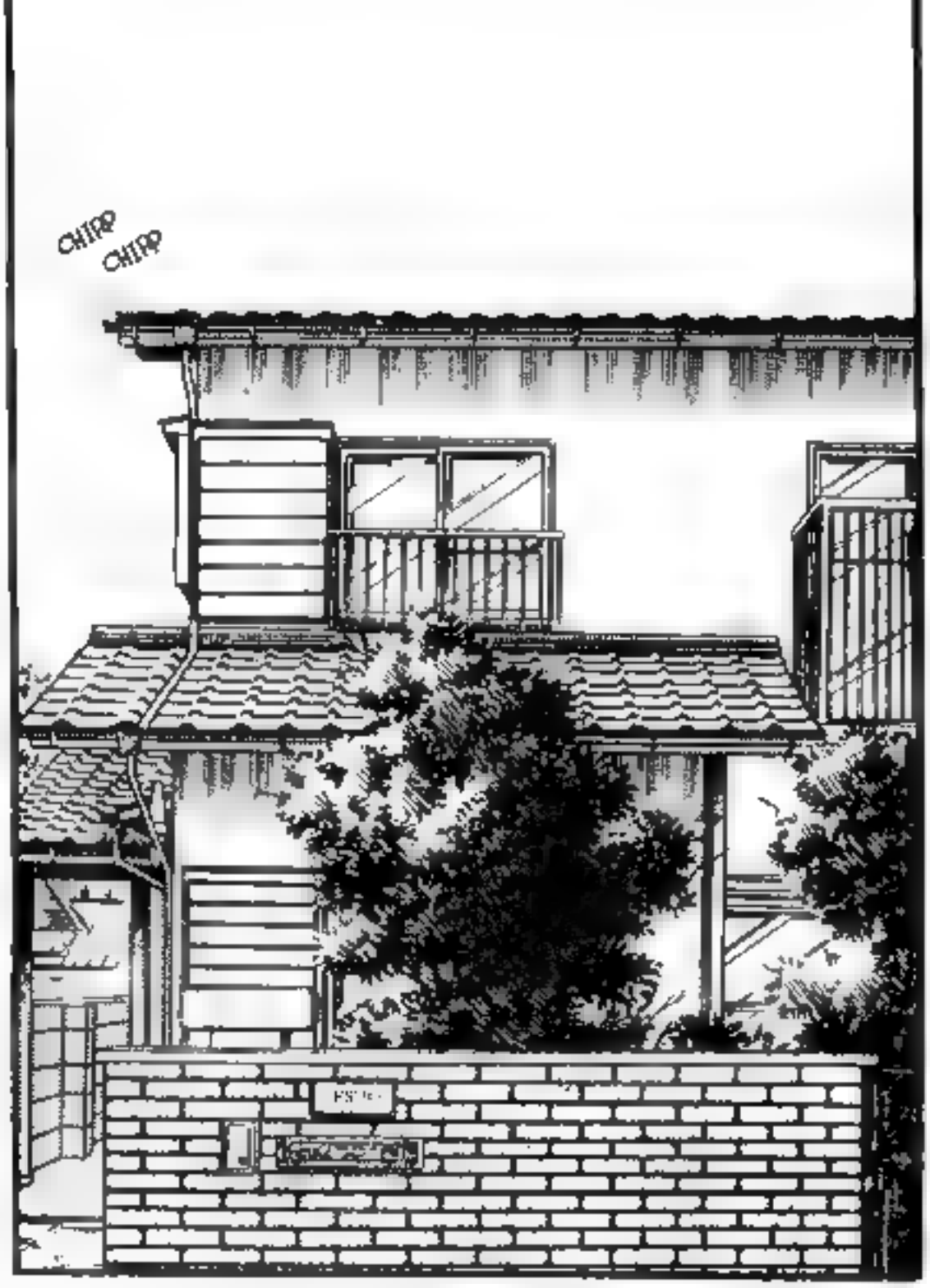
THAT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT...

...I DON'T THINK IT WOULD TURN OUT USELESS TO LIKE SOMEONE...

NO MATTER WHAT THE RESULT ...

タッチ 1

HEY,
THANKS FOR THE GREAT RUN!


CHIRP
CHIRP

10 KILOME-TERS...

GOOD BYE.

EH?
EXACTLY THE SAME 10-KILOMETER TIME AS KAZUYA-SAN...
YOU SURE ARE TWIN BROTHERS, HM.

PLOP

YAW-
W-W-
WN.

THUMP
THUMP

HMM?

WELL? WHAT WAS THE OUTCOME OF YOUR RISING EARLY THIS MORNING?

3-A

DAMN!

KAORI-CHAN...

HEH HEH.

TO MAKE SURE NOTHING WOULD GET IN YOUR WAY...

ABOUT THAT... I WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOU AND KAZUYA...

HMPH!

AGAIN ...

SO YOU WERE REJECTED AFTER ALL...

RIGHT NOW, THE GIRLS ARE ALSO DOING A POPULARITY POLL FOR GUYS.

BECAUSE I PUT IN A VOTE FOR YOU, TATCHAN.

BE GRATEFUL TO MINAMI...

FOR THE OLDER TWIN BROTHER NOT TO HAVE EVEN A SINGLE VOTE WOULD PUT YOU IN A BAD POSITION...

EVEN IF I NEGLECT TO VOTE FOR HIM, KATCHAN IS SURE TO BE AT THE TOP OF THE LIST.

WHAT A SWEET MINAMI-CHAN!

DUMMY! I DON'T NEED YOUR SYMPATHY VOTE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

SFX: <SPLAT!?

WANNA BET?

O-O-OKAY, NOW YOU'VE SAID IT!

WHAT!? IF I DIDN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT, YOU WOULDN'T COLLECT A SINGLE VOTE, TATCHAN!

.....

10 MILLION YEN!

.....

I'M GOING TO THE REST-ROOM.

AH,
THERE YOU ARE.

Boy's Restroom

HEY, TATS-UYA.

YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE LEFT... WHO HASN'T VOTED!!

C'MON.

.....

WELL, WELL. LOOK FORWARD TO THE RESULTS...

MISS MEISEI

BUZZ

BUZZ

A) 275

B) 274

The 12th Miss Meisei Popularity Poll

1位	Asakura Minami (3-A)	275
2位	Shinozuka Kaori (1-B)	274
3位	Takeuchi Setsuko (2-B)	98
4位	Abe Mayumi	
5位	I…	(1-A)

BE GRATE-FUL!

.....

Touch Volume 1 / END

TOUCH タッチ 1

Shonen Sunday Comics

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TOUCH

タッチ

★努力という言葉に縁のない人、達也。努力の人、和也。そ
★れでも二人は、ふた子の兄弟。だから、どっちがどっち
★だか、よくわからない。そして、となりの南ちゃんは、幼
★なじみのかわいい娘。この三人、もう目が離せない!!

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